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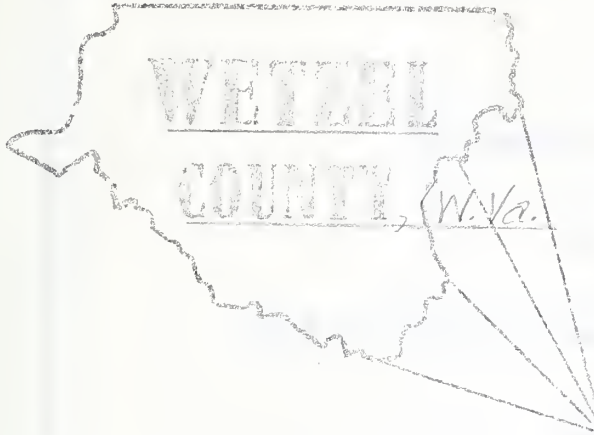
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HISTORY OF



WETZEL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

New Market, West Virginia

1705061

This History Reprinted

for

WETZEL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by

John Null's

MOUNTAINEER INSURANCE AGENCY

222 Leap Street

P. O. Drawer A

NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA.

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NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA.



WETZEL COUNTY HISTORY.

It Was Formed in 1846, and Named After the Distinguished Indian Fighter.

Wetzel county was formed by act of January 10, 1846, from Tyler, and named in honor of Lewis Wetzel, the distinguished frontiersman and Indian scout—the Boone of Northwestern Virginia. His deeds of adventure are well known throughout the state. Some of them have been woven in fiction, prominently in the work entitled "Rose Forester," in which the scene is laid around Mount Pleasant. New Martinsville was made the seat of justice by the act creating the county and the town was incorporated by act of March 18, 1848.

About the year 1780 Edward Doolin patented and made entry upon 800 acres of Ohio river hill and bottom land, which included in its boundaries the present site of the town of New Martinsville, says Leonard S. Hall in the Wetzel Republican. The piece of land was a little more than a mile square, and lay in the angle formed by Fishing creek and the Ohio river. He cleared some land and built a small cabin near

ville was named. Mr. Martin located here in 1811. He built a part of what is now the Point House, and planted an orchard of five acres between Washington Street and the creek, a few trees are yet standing. Five years later he was followed by Friend Cox, who took up a farm and erected a house below the creek, opposite the Point House. This house burned down.

From this time until 1838 the settlement grew slowly. On March 28th, of that year an act establishing the town of "Martinsville," in the county of Tyler, was passed by the Assembly of Virginia, and in the same act Henry McCabe, Samuel McEldowney, Lewis Williams, John Buchanan and Benjamin F. Martin were appointed trustees to administer the affairs of the town. The surveying and platting was done by Lewis Williams and three others. It extended from one lot below Washington street to North street, and from Union street to the river. The streets included in these boundaries remain

must have aroused dreams of wealth. A man presented himself to the community and remained a while without any apparent means of support. Having no occupation, he was arrested under the vagrancy law, and to obtain his liberty was compelled to state his business to the town officers. Thereupon he showed papers from the French Government. By this it was ascertained that he was the accredited agent of that government sent to this community to search for \$87,000.00 supposed to have been buried below the creek dur-

ties present were Sampson Thistle, Friend Cox, William Little and Ebenezer Payne. Presley Martin was elected first clerk, and Charles Snodgrass first prosecuting attorney.

The corner stone of the present court house was laid July, 1848, being finished two years later. The old court house on the corner of Main and Jefferson streets was sold to Jackson Wise for \$450.00.

During the last decade quite a number of well known names of the past and present moved to the burg: Houb-



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF NEW MARTINSVILLE, FROM ACROSS THE OHIO.

ing the French and Indian war. It is thought that he did not find the money. Shortly after this, another incident occurred in the same line. A Mr. Watkins of Monongalia county sold his farm there for 1,000 silver dollars, and came to this settlement, the silver, which weighed over 60 pounds, was too heavy to carry about his person, so he set aside \$40.00 for his immediate use and buried the remainder at the foot of a pawpaw bush, 60 steps from the river bank, midway between the mouth of the creek and a point opposite Texas run; when he returned for his money, it could not be found.

An act prescribing the mode of electing trustees of New Martinsville in the county of Wetzel, and investing them with certain corporate powers was passed March 13th, 1848, by the Assembly of Virginia.

The trustees were elected annually by the people. They chose one of their own number to preside at their meetings. The subordinate officers were: Commissioner of revenue, sergeant or town collector and police.

At this time also, the town was extended to the creek, and the McClure addition on High street taken in. The new part of the town was surveyed and marked out by Thomas Tucker, who is now deceased.

Observe that the town was called "Martinsville in Tyler county." Now it is called "New Martinsville in Wetzel county," Wetzel having been carved out of the north end of Tyler county in 1846.

The first county court of Wetzel county was held April 6, 1848. The jus-

lers, the Villers, the Biers, the Wises, the Halls, Snodgrasses, the Savers, the Lavelys, the Tuckers, the Counters, the Moores, the Pitchers and the Vanders.

As the town was increasing in size and business, some of the more active spirits desired to make a better connection with the outside world, and accordingly, on the 21st day of February, 1853, the Mannington and New Martinsville railroad was incorporated. The directors were: James G. West, Friend Cox, Presley Martin, Joseph C. Moore, Robert Cox, Samuel McEldowney, George W. Bier, Joseph Vance, Edmund Moore, David Cunningham, William P. Snodgrass, Elias Blackshire and John Michael. If this railroad had been built, New Martinsville would probably be now where Wheeling is, or at least much better off than she is.

The brick church on Main street was built by the Methodists in 1854. About the same time an Episcopal church was built near this. It was sold and used for a school under the name of the New Martinsville Academy. When the free school system was adopted by the state the building was used for a public school. It was finally sold to Standiford Bros., who have erected a three story building on the same site.

The town was divided on the civil war question, and during that time many serious disturbances occurred and some of them were amusing. There was one incident that caused consternation in the minds of many. A United States flag was hung across Washington street for the purpose of proving the loyalty of the citizens, by compelling them to walk under it. One night was given to



WETZEL COUNTY COURT HOUSE, NEW MARTINSVILLE.

where now stands the Witten building, selecting the spot on account of its nearness to a spring; it being the source of Little Doolan, which runs through town. He farmed and improved on his land until 1784.

In September of that year a small band of Indians came down the river from the village of Wheeling, where they had been driven off by Colonel Zane, attacked his home unawares, and killed him. His wife and one child escaped. She retained ownership of the property for a time, selling it piece by piece.

The portion upon which the town is situated, was purchased by Presley Martin, the man after whom New Martins-

the same now as then, except Water street. This street was located on the river bank and was the widest and principal street in town, being 80 feet wide. It is evident that it was the purpose of the founders of this town to have a broad street on the river front, where they could have the benefit of the cool breezes from the west, and an open view of the river. Trees had been left along the bank for the purpose of shade, and the residents had placed benches under there, where the gentry were accustomed to loaf and discuss the issues of the day. I am informed that in 1842 there were twelve houses in town.

An incident occurred in 1845 that

think over it, and all who would refuse would do so at the peril of their lives. It was seen on the morning of the fateful day that the flag had disappeared, having been stolen during the night. The person who took it has kept his secret.

After the war the town made very little progress until 1871. February 13 of that year the charter was amended and re-enacted by the legislature of West Virginia. From this time onward the town grew and improved more rapidly.

The Pittsburg Stave Company came in 1873, and gave employment to 125 men. The next year Burlington sprang up in the suburbs. Springertown started five years later.

The school house was built in 1880.

In 1882 a church boom struck the town and stayed two years. During this period four churches were built: the Episcopal, M. E. South, the Baptist and the Catholic.

The long wished for railroad came in 1883, and infused more life into the town.

In 1884, a destructive flood submerged

the vote of 1893, is 21,050. Brooklyn, although a separate corporation, is included in New Martinsville in the above figures of population. Brooklyn itself has about 500 people and New Martinsville 1,500. The mayor of the former town is E. Lappert, who publishes the Mountain State Gavel, the official organ of the Jr. O. U. A. M.

A TOWN OF PROGRESS.

Robert McEldowney, Esq., Speaks of the Future Prospects of New Martinsville.

Robert McEldowney, Esq. one of the leading citizens of New Martinsville, says: "The man who lives in a town which in his opinion will never amount to anything, is usually a man who never amounts to anything himself. His opinion of the town is based upon his opinion of his own future prospects. We have very few such persons in New Martinsville, and while we do not believe that their funerals are generally desired, yet they will be generally approved."

The grandest work for our benefit,

Upon these two enterprises depends the business future of New Martinsville. Without them, we shall falter and fail in the march of progress. With them we shall move at the head of the procession.

The Short Line railroad people are securing very considerable territory south of Fishing creek as sites for enterprises which they expect to induce to come here, and which they say will undoubtedly come when the railroad is built.



JOSEPHUS CLARK'S RESIDENCE.

The location of New Martinsville is at a natural trading point. Towns so located usually succeed. Towns laid out by the Indians, or established at places where the Red man halted on his trail through the tangled wilderness, are properly laid out and established.

The site of New Martinsville is not elevated and many object to a residence here because of the supposed danger from high water. This is only a supposed danger. The flood of 1884 was a fearful visitation, yet we came out of it like a colony of ducks, and in six months after we were all ready to make oath that it never touched us. So there need be no misgivings on this account, but the man who has an unconquerable aversion to water can yet have a secure and firm foundation for his dwelling, upon some of the beautiful and pictur-

We will then have two railroads, and a town with two good railroads will necessarily improve, if it has got in it, and if it does not then improve, it would not improve if it had twenty railroads.

Two railroads and the Ohio river, is not that enough? And the Ohio river will be improved and we shall have water transportation all the year round, and the Big Sandy dugouts will go to the bank and rot there.

For our splendid supply of natural gas we have no fears; we will have plenty in twenty years from now, and may all live to see it.

Building sites are plentiful around New Martinsville, but there must be a further location and extension of streets and alleys, and this will be done in the very near future. Our people who own the lands surrounding us are plating



JUDGE T. P. JACOBS' RESIDENCE.

the Ohio Valley, and checked the progress of New Martinsville for a time. The latest additions are the Springer and Clark properties.

The present officers of Wetzel county are: James A. Pyles, sheriff; H. R. Thompson, county clerk; John W. Kaufman, circuit clerk; E. L. Robinson, prosecuting attorney.

The real estate valuation of Wetzel county in 1890 was: First district, \$562,888; second district, \$858,841; and in 1897 the valuation in these districts was: First, \$1,108,335; second, \$984,835.

The personal property valuation of the county in 1890 was \$545,291, and in 1897, \$974,880, showing an increase of \$429,589 in seven years.

Wetzel county embraces 480 square miles of territory, about 307,000 acres. The largest town in the county is New Martinsville, the county seat, which has a population of about 2,000. The population of the county, based upon

now in contemplation, is the Short Line railroad. This road will be built. The demand for it is imperative. The magnificent coal fields, which it is intended to develop, are reaching for our great waterway. There is no doubt that the Fishing creek route is the only thoroughly practical route for the transportation of this coal to the Ohio River, where it will seek a southern market and also seek a way toward the thriving and busy population which swarms around the great lakes. The building of this railway will begin before six months have passed. Once let it be finished and we not only have at our doors, the best and cheapest coal in America but we will be brought into immediate business relationship with the people of our own county, of the great Arches Fork oil field, from which we are separated by miles of rough and for the greater part of the year, impassable highways.



CAPTAIN BASIL T. BOWERS' RESIDENCE.

esque elevations surrounding us. The projectors of our new railway, when they were here this spring were charmed with our surroundings, and declared that New Martinsville was naturally one of the most beautiful places that they had ever seen.

them into town lots and are ready to sell.

We have a scheme which we hope to see carried out, and it strikes us as something great. It is to buy out an avenue leading from the highway at Abersold's corner, north to connect

with the Ohio river at Witten's gate. It would be a grand place for a line of fine private residences located upon the slope on the eastern side of such a road. Call it Doolin avenue, and do something in honor of the brave man who dared to plant a home in the howling wilderness which threw its dark shadows, where now the fertile and smiling fields and happy homes of New Martinsville make the earth glad.

But what about Brooklyn? All this while we have said nothing about Brooklyn. When we say New Martinsville we mean Brooklyn also. Brooklyn is our sister, or rather our daughter; she is near and dear to us; her destiny is our destiny. Some day we hope to be united, and speed the day.

As to whether New Martinsville will ever become a great city, is something about which we know nothing and care nothing. To be prosperous, to be useful; that is the great thing to be desired. If our homes are pleasant, if our

COUNTY SEAT OF WETZEL.

is a Thriving Incorporated Town of 2,000 Inhabitants.

The Judicial seat of Wetzel county New Martinsville, a thriving incorporated town of two thousand inhabitants, is located on the Ohio River and the O. R. R., 38 miles south of Wheeling. It is surrounded by a rich agricultural region, the soil of which is unsurpassed. Bounteous crops are produced each year without the aid of fertilizers. Fruit of almost every kind that will vie in size, flavor color and texture with that of any climate, is grown in abundance. The hilly country back from the river, which has been brought to a high state of cultivation by the thrifty German population, produces large crops of the cereals, and is admirably adapted to grazing purposes.

Hill farms average in price from \$15 to \$35 per acre, while bottom lands

W. Leap, and C. C. Eisenbarth, directors.

The officers of the New Martinsville bank are: S. R. Martin, president; J. W. Alderton, cashier; and S. R. Martin, D. H. Cox, F. W. Clark, J. W. Lentz, C. J. Beck, E. S. Duerr and W. M. Ankrom, directors.

Among the leading business houses of the town are:

Grocers—J. W. Hill, Maple avenue; Mont Burrows, Main street; Albinger & Schlobouhm, Main street; N. Bandi, Main street; Josephus Clark, Main street; Welch, Koontz & Co., Main street; Williams & Ankrom, Main street; E. E. Headley, near the court house; Robert Morris, Brooklyn, and C. Dennis, Brooklyn.

Dry Goods—Reich Brothers, Main street; Baltimore Bargain House, Main street; N. Bandi, Main street; Josephus Clark, Main street; Robert Morris, Brooklyn; Williams & Ankrom, Main street; Oblinger & Schlobouhm, Main street; E. D. Delaney, Brooklyn.

Hardware—Bridgeman & Sons, M. B. Potts, Oblinger & Schlobouhm, and Josephus Clark.

Furniture—Stephens & Lechner, Sandiford Brothers, and Lappert & Ray, all on Main street.

Millinery—Mrs. Letitia Pemberton, Maple avenue, and Mrs. M. Snodgrass, Main street.

Drugs—Percy D. Leap & Co., F. P. Lowther, and R. T. Richardson, all on Main street.

Dentists—H. F. McEldowney; R. B. Cooper, and George Bridgeman, all on Main street.

Physicians—William E. Curtis; F. P. Lowther; F. V. Cox; D. Schmead; Dr. Underwood, and Dr. Young.

Hotels—Elk, \$1 per day house; Eakin House, \$1.50 per day; Brast House, \$1.50 per day.

Boarding Houses—McCann's, Garrisons, and Sharp's.

Churches—North Methodist; South Methodist; Episcopal; Catholic; Christian, and Baptist.

Flour Mills—J. & J. Stender & Co., Point Flour Mills; John Neuzam, Brooklyn Flour Mill.

Tailors and Gents-Furnishers—George Grall, Duerr Brothers, J. W. Snowick, Baltimore Bargain House, Reich Brothers, and Josephus Clark.

Saddlers—J. C. McMunn, and D. N. Mangold, both on Main street.

Factories—Lentz Brothers, tannery, and Koontz & Phillips, planing mill.

OFFICERS OF NEW MARTINSVILLE.

The officers of the town of New Martinsville as elected April 4th, 1898 are Mayor, M. V. Ober; Recorder, W. E. Maple; Street Commissioner, W. H. McEldowney; Council, James Bishop, James Chaplin, Thomas Lentz, F. E. McEldowney, F. C. Wells. A license ticket was elected.

New Martinsville has water works, planing mill, tannery, two flouring mills and a host of other industries.

HONE MODEL LAUNDRY.

H. W. Fair Has the Only Steam Laundry in New Martinsville.

New Martinsville has an up-to-date steam laundry. It is one of the products of the '93 boom. H. W. Fair seeing the needs and advantages of such an establishment, was not slow to give the people what they desired in a first class Model Home Laundry. The office and establishment is on North Main street, with a branch office at Schuman's barber shop. Large plate glass windows make the place one of the most attractive in the town. The machinery and building are new, and the work turned out here is strictly first class. The usual rates are given: Collars, 2½ cents; cuffs, 5 cents; shirts, 10 to 15 cents; undershirts, 8 to 10 cents; drawers, 10 cents; hose, 5 cents; handkerchiefs, 3 to 5 cents. Work is called for and delivered.

MONT BURROWS, DRY GOODS.

A House Which Furnishes Everything in the Line of General Merchandise.

Everybody in New Martinsville knows Mont Burrows, the merchant. He has one of the finest, neatest and most up-to-date stores in the town. A first class stock of dry goods, notions, boots, shoes, clothing and furnishings, hats, caps and general merchandise is kept and lowest prices always prevail. Mr. Burrows is thoroughly familiar with all branches of the mercantile trade, and is at all times courteous and pleasant. He is a native of New Martinsville, having been born in 1863. After clerking in a store a few years he started in business for himself in 1882, and has succeeded beyond measure.

HILL'S GROCERY.

It is One of the Well Patronized Business Concerns of New Martinsville.

The leading grocer of New Martinsville is J. W. Hill. Located in a convenient portion of the town, he commands a trade second to no other grocery house in the place. Mr. Hill's stock in trade is everything the market affords in staple and fancy groceries, as well as all lines of vegetables and produce. Being familiar with every branch of the grocery business, from actual experience, Mr. Hill knows how to select goods to please his customers and to win their trade. The store is always kept in order and everything is neat and clean. It is a place of business and the proprietor is a man of business. He was born in 1863, in New Martinsville, and attended the public school of his district until 15 years of age, when he commenced to learn the shoemaking trade. Four years later he started in the grocery business, and has continued in it ever since. Mr. Hill is a Republican, a Mason, and an Episcopalian.

New Martinsville is experiencing a boom.



ES-SHERIFF COX'S RESIDENCE

people are cheerful, and our children healthful, educated and refined, what more could they have and how much less they do have in New York, Chicago, London, Paris, or anywhere else on earth.

New Martinsville offers superior advantages in schools, churches, natural resources, manufacturing industries. You may enjoy them if you locate in New Martinsville.

If you want to locate a factory, New Martinsville is the place to select.

command prices ranging from \$60 to \$150.

The business houses of the town are well built, substantial structures, while the residences are pretty, cozy and comfortable. A new bank building of modern design has recently been erected and another is under contemplation. The two banks doing business in New Martinsville are the Wetzel County Bank and the New Martinsville Bank. The officers of the former are W. S. Wiley, President; J. E. Bartlett, Cashier, and R. C. Standiford, W. S. Wiley, Henry Koontz, S. J. Elliott, J.



NEW MARTINSVILLE SCHOOLS.

Principal Brice H. Hall, Supported by a Strong Corps of Teachers.

One of the most important events in the history of New Martinsville, and one that has been the most productive of good to both town and county was

But the school was not established without a vigorous contest. There is always more or less jealousy between the town and country, and although it was easy to demonstrate that the town sub-district would more than pay the whole expenses of the school, the opposition was determined, and, in some

ready for use, there still remained much to be done to make the school a success, and to this Mr. McG. Hall, who had been one of the leading spirits in having the system adopted, being president of the board of education, threw the whole of his energies, and to him, more than to any one else, is the success due. Such friends of education as S. R. Martin, John Shepherd, and, in fact, every progressive business man and citizen, gave their cordial support while it is due to the town papers to say that from the very inception of the idea, they were united in the effort to educate public sentiment in favor of the system adopted.

The arrangement of the grades, the selection of the teachers who would give the best results, and, in fact, building, as it was, a furnished, symmetrical structure from the "raw materials" was a work of difficulty but one that was so honestly performed with such grand results that any one who has been in any way connected with the Magnolia High School may well be proud of the fact. The teachers who have been connected with its management include such names as Profs. Williams, Wilmot, Martin, Umstead, Shields, Mapel and Hall, while the Board of Education has always been for-

of the pupils of the Magnolia High School.

An article in regard to the school, would be incomplete without paying a tribute to those two noble young men S. W. Martin and E. H. Umstead whose early demise was undoubtedly due to their work in the school room. They both died young, and yet they



PRINCIPAL BRICE H. HALL.

the adoption of the "Central High School" system for Magnolia district, and the erection of the school building now in use. Very many will recollect how serious was the situation that confronted the friends of education and the contest which culminated in the adoption of the system, but a brief reference may be interesting.

The old building on Main street had outlived its days of usefulness. Some excellent teachers had done good work within its walls, but the work had not been done so well as it could have been in the right kind of school rooms. Teachers such as Messrs. McElowney, Jacobs, Watson, Brock and Hall will never make a failure, but it is difficult to imagine now how they could have succeeded so well as they did in that building; too small for the growing town, illy constructed and poorly ventilated, the urgent necessity for a larger and better one needs no argument.

Under the common school law the terms of all the schools in this district must be of uniform length, and while the country people were satisfied with four months of school each year, the friends of education in town believed that in order to accomplish the desire for a higher education.

It was early recognized that the formation of an independent district would be bitterly opposed, and as promising more for the sub-districts by giving all the advanced pupils in them free access to the high school, the present system was determined upon, and it is safe to say that its success has been far greater than even its most sanguine advocates predicted or hoped for.



TEACHERS OF THE NEW MARTINSVILLE SCHOOLS.

No. 1, TRESSIA GIBBONS; No. 2 EULA FISH; No. 3, W. E. MAPLE; No. 4, A. M. CURTIS; No. 5, PRINCIPAL BRICE H. HALL; No. 6, DORA MCINTIRE.

cases, very bitter. But the friends of education, in town, rallied to the support of the proposition, and were joined by a large number of the progressive citizens of the country sub-districts, and the majority at the polls was a decisive one.

The system adopted and the building

tunate in selecting "of the best" for assistants.

Probably nothing more clearly proves the success of the school than the fact that when its pupils have gone to other schools, even to higher grades, they always take a high rank, and the world will yet hear good reports from many

HENRY KOONTZ, PRESIDENT SCHOOL BOARD.

accomplished more than many with longlives and the influence of such characters never dings, but ever lives for good.

The Magnolia school prior to 1877 was an ungraded one and when the district was converted into an independent one, it was the first of its kind in the state. The new building, which was completed in 1880, was regarded as the finest in the state. The rapid growth of the town and increase in population have rendered the building inadequate to hold all the pupils and two other schools are maintained. The present course of study in the schools is equal to that of the preparatory in the state university.



NEW MARTINSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

A library of nearly 1,000 volumes, physical apparatus, and the other paraphernalia make the Magnolia high school one of the best institutions in the country.

More than fifty of the graduates from this school have gone to higher institutions of learning, and of these 25 have finished their education at the state university. The school, under its pres-

ent management, is doing magnificent work. Principal B. H. Hall, with an able corps of assistants, composed of Professor W. E. Maple, Miss A. M. Curtis, Eula Fish, Tressia Gibbons and Dora McIntire compose the faculty of the main school building, and Charles Farmer and Miss Maud O'Connell in the Brooklyn schools.

Principal Brice H. Hall holds the title B. S. M. E. He was born in Fairmont, W. Va., and is a descendent of one of the oldest families in that part of the state. Relatives on both the paternal and maternal sides of Mr. Hall have held responsible positions, and figured prominently in the history of that section of West Virginia. Mr. Hall received his early education in the public schools of his native district, and graduated from the high school at Fairmont in 1887. After this he began teaching, which vocation he has since followed. He also took a course in the state normal school and graduated in the class of '89. After finishing his work at the Normal he was tendered the principalship of the Palatine graded schools, which he accepted and held for a period of three years. He was offered the position a fourth year, but declined to accept it, as he wished to enter the state university to finish his education. After a four years course in that institution he graduated with the class of '96, receiving high honors. He was chosen one of the five members to represent the class on commencement day, and he electrified the people with his production "The New South."

It should be said to Mr. Hall's credit that in all his school life he never depended upon outside financial aid, but rested the burden with himself. Before finishing his course in the state university in June, '93, he was elected principal of the Harrisville high school and re-elected the following year. He resigned to take up the work at New Martinsville, a similar position being offered him in the Magnolia high school, which place he still fills. Mr. Hall is a man of Christian character and high moral courage. He is a gentleman and a scholar, whose influence and life's work will live after he is dead.

Assistant Principal W. E. Maple was born in Greene county, Pa., January 29, 1868. He moved to Monongalia county in 1871, and to Wetzel county in 1890. He has been engaged in teaching for a period of 12 years. Mr. Maple is a deep student and a thorough teacher. He has been eminently successful in his work, and holds his present position because of his worthiness to fill it.

A better and more competent corps of teachers is hard to find than those employed in the New Martinsville schools. Both ladies and gentlemen are courteous and refined. They have spent most of their time fitting themselves for the work which they are now doing, and the schools under their charge must of necessity be improved and advanced.

HENRY KOONTZ, PRESIDENT SCHOOL BOARD.

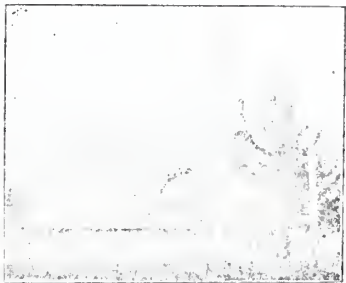
One of the most progressive and up-to-date citizens of the town of New

Martinsville, is Henry Koontz, president of the Magnolia school board, and passenger agent for the Ohio River railroad. He was born February 11, 1864, in Wetzel county. His father was R. Koontz, who came to America from Switzerland. His mother before marriage was Elizabeth Grabel, also of Switzerland. They settled in Wetzel



M. E. CHURCH, NORTH.

county, and later moved to Belmont county, O., where the son, with his other brothers, was educated at the Powhattan schools. In 1878 the family moved to New Martinsville, and Henry Koontz and an older brother engaged in the wharfboat business, which they followed for six years. The junior member served as deputy sheriff under John Stender from 1884 to 1888, when he engaged with the Ohio River railroad as passenger and freight agent at New Martinsville. He has held this position ever since, in addition to act-



PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

ing as express agent, and is one of the most popular men in the employ of the company.

He has been a member of the school board since 1895, and takes great interest in the promotion of educational work. He is a member of several secret societies, the I. O. O. F. and K. of P., being the two principal orders to which he belongs.

New Martinsville will soon have another railroad.

New Martinsville is located near the oil territory.

NEW MARTINSVILLE CHURCHES.

Five Religious Denominations, all of Which Have Strong Followings.

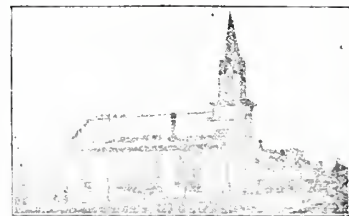
There are surely churches enough in New Martinsville to redeem all the lost souls—if those lost souls have any desire to be saved. There are at least five denominations, and other religious organizations are beginning to develop. The Methodist church is perhaps the strongest. Two churches conducted by separate societies hold forth in New Martinsville. One is the Methodist Church North and the other the Methodist Church South. The former has a very nice place of worship on Main street almost in the center of the town. The congregation is presided over by the Rev. E. D. Hanna, D. D., regular pastor. The Methodist Church South has perhaps the largest congregation in the town. The church edifice is located on Maple avenue and has a strong following. The pastor of this church is the Rev. J. M. Carter, A. M. Mr. Carter was born in Oldham county, near Louisville, Ky., October 5, 1851. His father was a well-to-do farmer. Rev. Carter was deprived of the advantages



REV. J. M. CARTER, M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

of an early education by the death of both his parents, his father dying in January, 1863, and his mother in September, 1832. He attended the district school of the neighborhood until 1869, when he entered the Kentucky University. During his second year in that institution he was stricken with typhoid fever, which necessitated his return home for the remainder of the year. In September, 1872, he became a student in the Kentucky Wesleyan College, whence he graduated in 1876, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts. In 1881 his alma mater conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts. Four years previous to this he was licensed to preach, becoming a member of the Kentucky Conference, M. E. Church, South in 1876. For four years he served different pastorates in that conference, the first including the

famous Crab Orchard Springs. In 1880 he was transferred to West Virginia and stationed at Clarksburg, where he married the daughter of Dr. J. L. Carr, June 7, 1882. He afterwards served as pastor at Charleston, Huntington, Greenup and Ashland, Ky.; also at Parkersburg station, where he remained four years, during which the membership of his church was almost doubled. Four years he was presiding elder of the Charleston district, residing



M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH.

in Barboursville, and most of the time being president of the board of trustees of Barboursville College. At the session of his conference last fall Rev. Carter was assigned to New Martinsville.

The Christian congregation has a very neat place of worship in Brooklyn, but services are not held regularly and there is no regular pastor.

The Episcopal church is one of the most influential in New Martinsville. A neat chapel on Maple avenue serves as a place of worship. The rector of this church is the Rev. R. U. Brackley, who resides on Maple avenue.

The Catholic congregation hold regu-



CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

lar services. Their place of worship is on Virginia street, in the north part of the city.

New Martinsville is within reach of coal, oil, railroads, churches, schools, rich farming and fruit growing country. You are invited to locate here.

New Martinsville is a growing town—because it offers cheap homes, the best educational advantages and natural resources of any town in the state.

New Martinsville is one of the most prosperous towns along the Ohio Valley. New Martinsville is a town of churches and good schools.

New Martinsville has a population of 2,000 people.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

EX-JUDGE THOMAS P. JACOBS.

No man of public life in Wetzel county is better known throughout the state of West Virginia than Ex-Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit Thomas P. Jacobs, of New Martinsville. As a lawyer, judge and politician he has won distinction and success. He was born near New Cumberland, Allegheny county, Maryland, in 1852, and his parents came to West Virginia when he was quite young. He secured his early education in the public and private schools of the state, and finally graduated from the University of Virginia in 1874. Three years after graduating he was married to Miss Eugene A. Bansch, at Piedmont, W. Va., to which union there have been born two daughters, Gratta Leah, now 18 years of age, and Anna Louise, 15 years of age. Mr. Jacobs was elected judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit in 1888 by the Republicans. He owns one of the finest residences in the county at New Martinsville, where he has lived for 23 years.



EX-JUDGE T. P. JACOBS.

Himself as well as the members of his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ROBERT M'ELDOWNEY, ESQ.

One of the most distinguished practitioners at the Wetzel county bar is Robert McEldowney, Esq., both lawyer and editor. He was born November, 1837. His father was Samuel McEldowney, a farmer whose parents came to America in 1786. Robert McEldowney was educated in the subscription schools of Wetzel county which were then the only kind, and later sent to Moundsville Academy and to Marietta, O., College. He began the study of law previous to the civil war, but when the great conflict came he joined the Confederate service and served from 1861 to 1865, as captain of the 27th Virginia Infantry in the famous Stonewall brigade. After the close of the war he again took up his studies and

was admitted to the bar in 1873. He was ticket agent two years at Wheeling for the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, then went to Philadelphia, where he remained three years with a large wholesale firm. He finally settled at New Martinsville, and is today one of



ROBERT M'ELDOWNEY, LAWYER.

the most respected citizens of that town and the county of Wetzel in which he was born.

The next year after being admitted to the practice of law, he was elected to the West Virginia legislature from Wetzel county, which he represented from 1874 to 1875. Two years later he associated himself with W. S. Wiley, Esq., in the founding of the "Wetzel Democrat," one of the leading Democratic journals of the state.

Mr. McEldowney was married late in life to Miss Anna Louise Smith, of Allegheny, Pa., and to this union two daughters were born, only one of which is still living.

Mr. McEldowney owns a very comfortable home in New Martinsville besides real estate in Ohio, and he enjoys a most lucrative practice in the local courts, as well as in the United States Court and the Supreme Court of Appeals in West Virginia.

J. W. KAUFMAN, CIRCUIT CLERK.

J. W. Kaufman, circuit clerk of Wetzel county, was born October 8, 1870. His father was John Kaufman, of Green Hill, Wetzel county.

The greatest aim of the junior Kaufman's "teens" appears to have been in evading the hoe, chasing down the innocent squirrel, and reading any and every thing which came in his grasp, which brought about the remark by many of his friends that he would read himself crazy ere he arrived at man's estate. But up to date the symptoms of the disease have been very unfavorable indeed, and he has established a reputation above the average as an honest, conscientious, Christian gentleman.

He has taught six years in the public

schools. He owes much of his ability as an instructor to his former teacher, C. S. Farmer, who encouraged him to pursue his studies when many others did the reverse. In 1887 he gleaned a faint idea of becoming a pensman, getting three miles each evening, rain, hail or shine, to a class of young penmen, organized and conducted by Mr. Chalfant. The taste acquired there "meant more," and in 1892 he entered Michaels' famous school at Delaware, Ohio, where he gained proficiency in the science of accounts, shorthand, penmanship, etc., and in 1893 we find him at the Zanerian Art University, Columbus, Ohio, where new ideas were acquired and greater proficiency in his work attained.

Since leaving said schools he has been a very busy man with the pen, gradually and surely reaching the standard which will place him among America's first artists. His line of work is not limited, but landscape and marine sketching, public school drawing, engraving resolutions, memorials, family records, letterheads, portraits in India ink or pencil, several styles of writing and many styles of lettering, etc., are all handled with equal skill and nicety.



J. W. KAUFMAN, CIRCUIT CLERK.

He is well known over the county as a fluent and able speaker, and the prospects in store for him are very encouraging, having already refused several lucrative positions in order to reach the highest standard before launching into the business world. He holds diplomas from our State fair for excellence in pen art.

In 1896 he was elected to the office of circuit clerk, receiving a handsome Democratic majority. Mr. Kaufman resides in Brooklyn. He is a member of New Martinsville lodge No. 39 F. & A. M.

E. L. ROBINSON, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.

A progressive citizen of Wetzel county is E. L. Robinson, Esq., prosecuting attorney. He was born March 18, 1863, near Littleton, and received his early

education in the common schools of his native state. At the age of 18 years he entered the State Normal School at Fairmont, afterwards teaching school two years. He was married in September, 1882, to Miss Mary Anderson, daughter of Lewis Anderson, of Wetzel county. He was en-



E. L. ROBINSON, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.

gaged with his father, J. A. Robinson, in the mercantile business for six years, after which he began the study of law, entering the University of Virginia. After finishing his course at this institution he was admitted to the practice of law in 1884 and two years later was nominated on the Democratic ticket for prosecuting attorney of Wetzel county, to which position he was elected, filling it with credit to himself and honor to his party. Mr. Robinson is the father of two children, John H., born June 19, 1894, and Bessie, born January 5, 1896.

J. W. NEWMAN, ESQ.

A man who has had much to do with the affairs of Wetzel county is J. W. Newman, Esq., ex-circuit clerk. He



J. W. NEWMAN, LAWYER.

was born April 9, 1832. His father was William A. Newman, a native of West-

ern Virginia, and his mother before marriage was Sarah Donaldson, of Wheeling.

J. W. Newman graduated from the Fairmont Normal school. He served 18 years as circuit clerk of Wetzel county, and in 1897 was admitted to the practice of law. Since entering upon his profession he has won considerable distinction as a practitioner and politician. He was married to Miss Sue Hall, daughter of Leonard Hall, and to them one son was born.

FRANK WELLS CLARK, LAWYER.

Frank Wells Clark is the son of Josephus Clark, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume. His grandfather was Ebenezer Clark, whose wife was Harriett Anderson. His mother is Lina Russell Clark, daughter of Friend Cox, for many years clerk of the Wetzel courts, and Susan Thistle, sister of the late Archibald and Sampson Thistle, of Sistersville. He was born in New Martinsville, November 30, 1868, and received his early education in the public schools of his native town. When but 13 years old he delivered an original oration at the exercises marking the close of the first year of the Magnolia High School, his name appearing in the same capacity the three following years. The spring of 1885, when 16 years of age, upon the serious illness of the principal, he for over two months had charge of classes belonging to the principal and first assistant.

Four years were passed by him in regular course at the West Virginia University, graduating in the class of 1890, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, the first Wetzel county graduate of the State University. During more than three years of this period he was a member of the cadet corps, then as now commanded by an officer of the U. S. Army, and by successive promotions attained the rank of captain during his senior year. During the session of 1890-'91 he was again enrolled at the West Virginia University, having conferred upon him in June, 1891, the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He took an active part in the various religious and literary organizations of this college and town, and, in conjunction with Mr. Enoch Howard Vickers, of his class, edited the *Athenæum*, the organ of the students during the session of 1889-'90, and the *W. V. U. Daily* during the commencement week, 1891. During his college career he was frequently called upon to represent these organizations on public occasions. Among these addresses may be mentioned his contest oration, "No North—No South," his oration before the university on Washington's Birthday, 1891, his graduating thesis on "Civil Service Reform," and his debate at a public session of the Parthenon Society supporting the proposition that there should be, for males, a property qualification for marriage. The occasion he seems to remember with most pleasure, however, is Easter Day, 1890, when by special invitation

the venerable Hon. Waitman T. Willey, one of the first United States Senators from West Virginia, and Mr. Clark addressed the congregation and students in the M. E. church at Morgantown.

After an interval in business, Mr. Clark went to Boston and enrolled as a student at Harvard University, where three years were passed. His time there was principally devoted to law, but much attention was given to political science, economics, finance, literature and the trend of modern religious thought, all of which have had a fascination for him. He received from Harvard the degree of Bachelor of Laws, in June, 1896.

Soon after his return to West Virginia he became executor of a large estate, which has since taken much of his time and attention. His work has been done in a careful, business like



FRANK WELLS CLARK, LAWYER.

manner, giving entire satisfaction to all interested. Mr. Clark is a member of the New Martinsville bar, having been admitted in 1892. His offices are at 65 Main street, over the New Martinsville Bank, of which he has been director and vice president since its organization.

In politics Mr. Clark is a Jefferson-Jackson-Cleveland Democrat, unalterably opposed to the principle of protection, believing that American brain and muscle can defy all competition. Just as repugnant to him are Mr. Bryan's financial theories, though he has been a careful student of all Mr. Bryan's speeches and writings, and has high admiration for Mr. Bryan as a man and orator. He was a delegate to the so-called Gold Democratic State Convention at Wheeling, and cast the only vote received by the Palmer and Buckner electors at New Martinsville. Mr. Clark has kept out of politics, however, twice refusing the urgent request of delegates to be allowed to present his name before the convention called to nominate a candidate for the Tyler-Wetzel legislative district, and only

after repeated refusals permitting the nomination for mayor of New Martinsville, in 1897, by the anti-license convention, the whole ticket being defeated. He is an earnest opponent of licensing saloons, never hesitating, when occasion demands, to express his views on the subject.

Though not a politician Mr. Clark firmly believes that every American citizen should interest himself in public issues. His position on this important question is well epitomized in the following paragraph from an address delivered by him at New Martinsville, July 4th, 1897, his subject being Christian Citizenship: "May I suggest, however, that payment of taxes is not all—that casting your ballots is not all. It is your duty to inform yourselves as thoroughly as your daily occupation will permit upon living issues, state and national. You should think for yourselves, and not permit prejudice or passion or abuse to swerve you from a position you feel to be right. You should attend the preliminary caucuses and conventions of your party, for it is here that the power of the political boss and corruptionist is most conspicuous and dangerous. You should keep in mind that those in public position are the servants of the people, and should see that their duties are performed honestly and faithfully. Christian citizenship means constant, watchful service, or as one of the most brilliant of living poets has well phrased it, Citizenship by Manhood."

Mr. Clark is a member of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity, one of the leading college secret organizations. He is a member of Wetzel Lodge No. 39, A. F. and A. M., of which he is Senior Warden. He is a member of the M. E. Church, South, being president of the Fitzgerald Epworth League. He is unmarried.

W. P. CHAFFEE, GROCER.

W. P. Chaffee, of New Martinsville, was born in Columbiana county, O., August 11, 1865. He attended the public schools, and spent the most of his early life in Pennsylvania. Mr. Chaffee was married at Kansas City, Mo., in 1888, to Miss Emily Selinek, of Denver, Col. Two children have been born to this union. Mr. Chaffee has followed the oil fields and is thoroughly familiar with every branch of the business. He came to New Martinsville in February, 1898, and engaged in the grocery business. On the 12th of May he added a very fine ice cream parlor, and has made arrangements to deliver manufactured ice cream to all parts of the town at Wheeling prices. Mr. Chaffee has located in New Martinsville to stay, and is deserving of the patronage of all classes. He is a gentleman worthy of the respect and esteem of everybody, and a hustler in business.

New Martinsville is the county seat of one of the richest sections of West Virginia.

LEADING STORE.

Josephus Clark, the Pioneer Merchant of New Martinsville.

It is a well known fact that in almost all the cities and towns in the United States the most successful men are those whose boyhood and early manhood were passed upon the farm. Farm life affords an abundance of hard, physical labor in the open air, better for the body and mind of the growing boy than all the gymnastics in the world. The boy who, under the direction of wise parents, has his hands and brain ever busily employed, is the making of the man upon whom the world will depend tomorrow.

The subject of this sketch was raised upon a farm, to whose various influences during the formative years of his career may be justly attributed his unvarying good health and success in life.

Mr. Clark was born in 1855, in Marshall county, Virginia. His parents were Ebenezer Clark and Harriett Anderson, who moved to Clark's Ridge, near Fanlight, Wetzel (then Tyler) county, when their son was a child. Ebenezer Clark faithfully represented Wetzel county in the Legislature at Richmond, and was for many years a justice of the peace. Ebenezer chapel, the M. E. Church, South, at Fanlight, was named in his honor.

When he had but reached manhood, Mr. Clark was elected constable. After a few years devoted to farming, he was, in 1861, at the age of 25, elected sheriff of Wetzel county, at once moving to New Martinsville, where he has since resided. This position was filled so acceptably that he was twice re-elected, serving from 1861 to 1866, being the last sheriff of Wetzel county, Virginia, and the first under the administration of the New Dominion. Upon the expiration of his term as sheriff, he was nominated, very much contrary to his wishes, for commissioner of the county court, and was elected, although the district was normally carried by the opposition. For two years he officiated as president of the county court.

In the autumn of 1866 Mr. Clark and Gabriel Leap, the latter still a prominent citizen of the town, formed a co-partnership to carry on a general store. The enterprise was immediately successful. This partnership was dissolved in 1880, the business being continued by Mr. Clark, who has from time to time added to his stock and building, endeavoring to keep in advance of all competition. The Clark building is located on the Court House Square, New Martinsville, the store room being one of the handsomest in this section of the state. The business is under Mr. Clark's personal supervision, he being assisted in the management by his son, Josephus B. Clark.

The Wetzel County Bank was organized in 1889, Mr. Clark being made a member of the first board of directors, by whom he was unanimously elected president of the bank. This position he

resigned at the end of the second year. He has always enjoyed farming, perhaps his most notable achievement in this line being the reclaiming and putting into condition for cultivation of what is now the magnificent Brown farm, just south of New Martinsville. At the present writing he is the owner of three farms. He owns some of the most valuable real estate within the corporate limits of New Martinsville and Brooklyn, and Clark's addition to the former town was laid off and sold by him. His residence, a half-tone cut of which is given, occupies one of the most convenient and attractive situations in the town.

Mr. Clark is a member of the M. E. Church, South, of whose Sunday school he has been superintendent since some time in the seventies. He presented to the congregation the ground upon which the present church building is located. He has been a Mason for perhaps 35 years, being a member of Wetzel Lodge No. 39, A. F. and A. M. In politics he is a Democrat. His first presidential vote was for James Buckhannon, and his last for William J. Bryan, he being an earnest advocate of the free and independent coinage of silver by this country at the ratio of 16 to 1.

September 20, 1896, Josephus Clark and Lina Russell Cox were united in marriage. Mrs. Clark is the daughter of Friend Cox and Susan Thistle, her grandparents being George E. Cox and Sampson Thistle, Sr. Five children are living: Frank Wells Clark is a New Martinsville attorney. Josephus B. Clark, who assists in the management of his father's large store, passed two years at the State University, and is a graduate of Duff's Business College, Pittsburg. Friend E. Clark is a student at the West Virginia University, and a member of the class of 1898. The oldest daughter, Minnie Edna Clark, was educated at the Wheeling Female Seminary and Millersburg Female College, and the youngest, Ella Cox Clark, graduated from the New Martinsville High School, and is now a student at the National Park Seminary, near Washington, D. C.

A. O. RUBY, LIVERYMAN.

There is no feature that contributes so much towards a city's reputation for progress and enterprise as facilities afforded by well conducted livery stables. In speaking in this connection reference must be made to the well patronized and reliable establishment conducted by A. C. Ruby, of New Martinsville, Wetzel county, whose stables are located near the Ohio River railroad station. He also conducts a large livery at Sistersville, situated on the main thoroughfare of the town, South Wells street. Both of these establishments are large and well equipped with horses and vehicles. Horses left in charge of either stable receive the best attention from experienced hostlers, while the

provender is of the very best and always liberally served. A large number of very fine stylish carriages, buggies, etc., fine stylish riding and driving animals can be hired upon the most rea-



A. C. RUBY, CONTRACTOR.

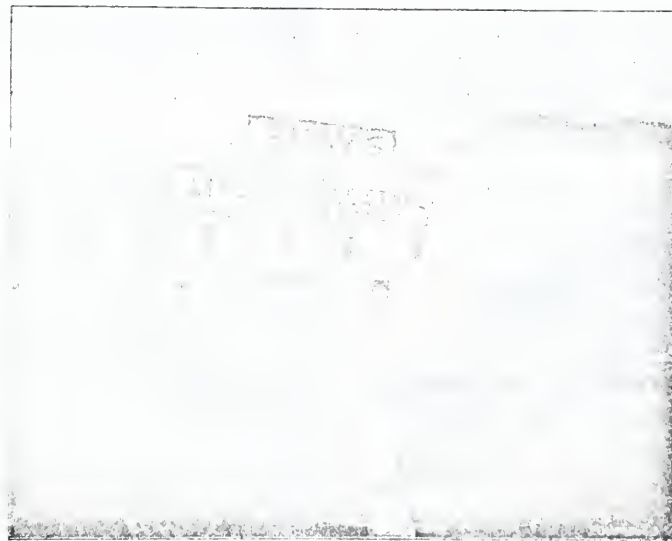
sonable terms, for business or pleasure, at all hours of the day or night. All orders receive prompt attention. A specialty is made of carriage service for

horses. It is said that Mr. Ruby sells more horses than any other man in the state of West Virginia. He gets nearly all the heavy hauling to do in the line of machinery, pipe and supplies for oil



MONT BURROWS' STORE AND RESIDENCE.

contractors and operators in and about New Martinsville, and gets his share of it in the field surrounding Sistersville. In addition to this business Mr. Ruby also sells feed. In addition to being a



RUBY'S LIVERY STABLE, NEW MARTINSVILLE.

balls, weddings, parties, receptions, theaters, funerals, shopping and pleasure excursions, and none but experienced and capable drivers are employed.

Mr. Ruby makes a specialty of selling horses and doing contract work for heavy hauling. He has gained a great reputation in this connection among oil men, and during the summer season his stables are centers of great activity, dozens of teams, wagons and drivers surrounding it. During the past year Mr. Ruby has done \$80,000 worth of business of this kind at his two stables, where he always keeps from 80 to 100

The son was educated in the public schools, and he has been following the oil fields for 13 years. Two years he spent in the hardware business at Homestead. He located in Sistersville in the livery business in 1895, and established a large stable. A year later he established a large stable at New Martinsville.

Mr. Ruby was married February 11, 1892, to Miss N. V. Simpson, of Oakdale, Pa. To this union was born one child, Eleanor, a daughter, who is now four years old. Mr. Ruby has been a Democrat all his life.

ALBERT BURKARDT, CONTRACTOR.

Albert Burkardt, general contractor and builder, who is now constructing the county jail building and the new postoffice, was born in Tiffin, O., in 1862. He apprenticed himself to his father to learn the brick trade at Kenton, O., and soon became a skilled workman. That he has succeeded in business is shown by the fact that he has built a large number of fine residences and several public buildings. Among the latter may be named the St. Patrick church at Bellefontaine, O., school building at Grafton, W. Va., and several others. In addition to these he built a large brick business block at Mt. Gilead, O., a fine large brick residence at Marion, O., a three story wholesale block at Galion, O., and a large machine shop at Bellefontaine.

Mr. Burkardt intends to locate permanently in New Martinsville, because he believes the town has a bright outlook. He is a self made man and has won his way in the world by careful management, honorable dealing and skilled workmanship. The new jail and the postoffice which he is now building will compare favorably with any structures of the same kind in the state or any other state. Mr. Burkardt is prepared at all times to furnish estimates and will guarantee his work to be what it is represented.

He was married in 1890 to Miss Ella Burns, and to them have been born three sons.

JOSEPH UNDERWOOD, GROCER.

One of the leading grocery houses of New Martinsville is that of Joseph Underwood, on North street, near the Magnolia High School building. Mr. Underwood was born in 1850. He spent most of his life in Wheeling, where he was engaged in the produce business. He moved to New Martinsville in 1890, and was the first man to sell ice made of filtered and distilled water—one of the most healthful drinks on the market. Mr. Underwood makes a specialty of groceries and produce, always keeping a complete line of both. All orders left for ice as well as groceries or produce will receive prompt attention.

Mr. Underwood is married and has a fine family of five sons and three daughters.

fiveryman and contractor. Mr. Ruby is a manufacturer, being treasurer of a company at New Martinsville which makes high explosives, torpedoes, etc. The other officers of this concern are H. T. Hervey, president, and C. G. Westerman, superintendent. The manufacturing plant is located about one mile from New Martinsville. The office is in the Elk Hotel building, on Maple avenue, New Martinsville.

Mr. Ruby was born at Prospect, Butler county, Pa., in 1866. His father was Harrison Ruby, born 1820, and his mother before marriage Abigail Graham, both natives of Butler county.

WETZEL COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION.

It Was Organized as a Joint Stock Company in 1888

The Wetzel County Fair Association was organized as a joint stock company in 1888, with John Stender as president; S. R. Martin, secretary, and Leslie J. Williams, treasurer. Outside of two or three years when Justus Eakin acted as president, James McGhee, secretary, and James Bishop, treasurer,

trainers. Many of these are fitted for campaigning and make annual tours of circuits in Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

One of the finest speed horses in the State of West Virginia is Summit Chief, owned by Messrs. Justus Eakin and John Stephens. This animal is a bay stallion 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ hands high; weight about 1,150 pounds. He is registered in the American Trotting Association as follows; Register No. 11,553; foaled 1888,

Spreckle, 2:19 pace, also eligible to 2:19 $\frac{1}{4}$ trot; Ethel, 5 years old, sired by Citizen; Wetzel Bel, 3 years old, by Election Bel; St. Bel, by Electioneer, and Tola, a breeding mare, having a record of 2:16. Tola is the mother of a colt sired by Summit Chief, which is one of the finest animals in West Virginia.

Among the animals owned by Mr. Stephens are Palladine, running record, 1:24, sired by Tenbrooke, dam Mollie McCarty; May Day, half mile in 50 seconds, sired by Masterpiece, and several other well bred running horses. The animals are under the care of Ernest Cottrell.

SHERIFF J. A. PYLES.

J. A. Pyles, sheriff of Wetzel county, was born December 14, 1863, in Center district. He received his early education in the public schools, and after he was able to pass a teacher's examination he took up the work of instruction in the public schools, which he followed with that of farming. In 1889 he was made assistant school examiner, which he retained for two years, and four years later was re-elected. In 1896 he was nominated on the Democratic ticket for sheriff of Wetzel county, and was elected by 640 majority over his opponent. The office requires a bond of \$60,000, which Mr. Pyles had no trouble in securing because of the confidence reposed in him. A new jail which is now being built at the county seat of Wetzel, is partially due to the untiring efforts of Mr. Pyles and his cooperation with the other county officials and citizens. The building when completed will be one of the finest in the

H. R. THOMPSON, COUNTY CLERK.

H. R. Thompson, county clerk of Wetzel county, was born in Belmont county, O., March 17, 1841. At the age of two years he moved to Wheeling with his parents, and in 1863 came to New Martinsville. Two years previous to this he was married to Miss Cecelia Bruner. In 1870 Mr. and Mrs. Thompson moved to Littleton, where Mr. Thompson engaged in the mercantile business, remaining there until 1890, when they returned to New Martinsville, Mr. Thompson having been elected county clerk. He was re-nominated by the Republicans in 1896, and elected by a plurality of 375 votes, there being three candidates. Mr. Thompson has proven himself a competent official, and is popular with the people. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

WALTER A. SMITH, MERCHANT.

Walter A. Smith, a representative citizen of Smithfield, Wetzel county, was born June, 1870, near Kernick, Va. He went with his parents in 1877 to Fauquier, and attended school at Warrenton. The same year his parents came to Wetzel county, and Walter A. remained with them until 1890, when he went to Washington, D. C., clerking in a large stationary and book store. In the fall of 1892 he returned to Wetzel county, settling at Smithfield, where he engaged in the oil and lumber business. Two years later he branched out in the mercantile business, at which he is still engaged.

Walter A. Smith was married October 7, 1896, to Miss J. V. Lewis, at Ivy

SUMMIT CHIEF, 2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$.

these gentlemen elected at the first meeting have served ever since. A tract of ground was leased from Hon. John C. McEldowney, a short distance north of New Martinsville, and it was put in condition for agricultural exhibits and racing. A fine half mile track was built and the necessary buildings constructed. The organization was successful from the start and each year new laurels were won and new improvements made. The year 1897 was crowned with extraordinary success, but the association is preparing to make the event of 1898 one that will long be remembered. A series of races are being arranged for the mid-summer season and the usual county fair will be given in the fall. Owing to the fine agricultural and stock region surrounding New Martinsville the county fair each year affords an exhibit scarcely to be surpassed in any section.

The lease on the ground having expired about the first of 1898 a new arrangement was entered into between the fair association and Mr. McEldowney, whereby the latter is to keep the grounds in repair and make all the necessary improvements and the fair society pays him an annual rental. The track is kept in excellent condition for the training of horses, of which there are no less than 25 well bred animals in the sheds constantly under the care of

by Robert Wilkes, No. 3453; dam Toga, by Country Boy, No. 431 g. d. sis. James, dam of Mohawk Gift 2:21 $\frac{1}{4}$, by Hiatoga, Campbell's son, of Hiatoga 498 etc., (see Toga, vol. 67). Summit Chief was bred by D. Rogers, of Steubenville, O., and foaled as the property of Bruce Rogers, of New Lisbon, O. Summit Chief won the world's trotting record at Clarksburg, September 9, 1897, over a one-third mile track, when he trotted in 2:20 $\frac{1}{2}$, succeeding Iron Bar, the famous little horse that made a record at Birgettstown, Pa. Summit Chief won the 2:20 trot and free for all race at Marietta, O., in September, '97, and also won races at Carnegie, Pa., Cumberland, Md., and many other points. He is under the care of D. W. McGee, driver and trainer, and under John Showalter, who has charge of the animal in the stables. Summit Chief has had little service in the stud, but will be given attention along that line during 1898. In fact he has been kept more as a driving animal doing ordinary service rather than as a speeder, until Messrs. Eakin and Stephens secured possession of him. He has a trotting record on a half mile track, made during the past season of 2:17 $\frac{1}{4}$. He will be campaigned this summer at Wheeling, New Martinsville, and points in Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Mr. Eakin has several other finely bred animals which have shown speed.



OLD MAPLE HOUSE, NEW ELK HOTEL.

state. It will compare favorably with that of Tyler county.

Mr. Pyles was married in October, 1889, to Mary J. Gatts, and to them have been born three children—Theresa, aged 7; Helen, aged 4, and Mary, aged 1.

New Martinsville's population is made up of educated and intelligent people.

Depot, Albemarle county, Va., and they reside at Smithfield. That town was named in honor of H. L. Smith and W. A. Smith, its founders. Walter A. Smith is a Democrat of the Jeffersonian type.

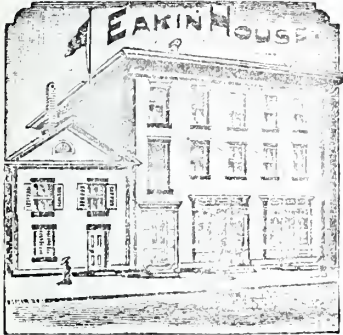
A. J. Smith, father of Walter A. Smith, is a native of Fauquier county, Va., being born October 28, 1846. At

the beginning of the civil war he joined the 11th Virginia Cavalry under General W. E. Jones, where he served two years. He was wounded and captured in the campaign of 1864, while acting as aid to General Robert E. Lee.

THE EAKIN HOUSE.

One of the Landmarks and an Up-to-Date Hostelry.

One of the landmarks of New Martinsville, Wetzel county, is the old Eakin House standing just opposite the court house and in the very center of the town. It is one of the oldest structures in the town and as it stands today is a remodel of its former self. The building is a three story structure containing 31 first class rooms. On the first floor is the office, bar room, parlor, dining room, sample room, reading room and kitchen. On the second and third floors are the sleeping apartments which are up-to-date and comfortable in every particular. The place has become a favorite stopping place among oil men, the proprietor himself, Justus Eakin, being an operator and producer.



THE EAKIN HOUSE.

Traveling salesmen know a good thing, and give the Eakin House its share of patronage.

Justus Eakin was born November 29, 1842, in Monongalia county. His father was Josephus Eakin, and his mother before marriage Achsah Harker. The son was educated in the subscription schools of his native county and took an active part in the civil war. He has been a Democrat all his life, and served one term as deputy sheriff of Wetzel county. He moved to New Martinsville in 1872, and shortly after purchased the hotel which has since borne his name. He was married in January, 1878, to Miss Lydia E. Wrights, and to them have been born five children: Lillian, John, Ross, Justus, Orin and Ethel. Mr. Eakin is interested in oil to a considerable extent and holds valuable leases on land in Wetzel and adjoining counties.

New Martinsville is only nine miles from Sistersville, "The Greatest Town on Earth."

New Martinsville is located on one of the most beautiful spots along the Ohio valley.

PERCY D. LEAP, DRUGGIST.

Percy D. Leap, the leading druggist of New Martinsville, is a son of Gabriel Leap, who was in business in Wetzel county for more than 30 years. The senior Leap married Miss Eliza Hyder,



PERCY D. LEAP, DRUGGIST.

of Maryland. Percy D. was born November 21, 1874. After finishing a course at the Magnolia High School he attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, graduating with the class of '96. Previous to entering upon the study of Pharmacy, he took a course at Palm's Business College, Philadelphia. He started in business for himself August, 1896, after getting some experience as drug clerk in the drug stores of Philadelphia, and a year later, June 29, he was married to Miss Isabel Stevens, of No. 1708 Oxford street, Philadelphia. They took up their residence in New Martinsville, where the husband has been quite successful in business, and is today one of the most progressive young men of the town.

WILL T. SIDELL, LAWYER.

One of the successful men at the Wetzel county bar is Will T. Sidell, Esq., of New Martinsville. Young in



WILL T. SIDELL, LAWYER.

years, he is old in the knowledge of legal and political tact. He was born in Monroe county, O., in 1865. He obtained the benefit of a common school

education, and began teaching at the age of 17, which vocation he followed for several years. He read law under W. S. Willey, Esq., and was admitted to the bar in 1891. He was elected to the superintendency of the county schools in May, 1893, and served for a term of two years. Later he was elected mayor of New Martinsville and served one term. Mr. Sidell is a young man of fine, agreeable disposition and methodical habits, and is highly regarded in the social and business world.

EDWIN O. KEIFER, ATTORNEY.

One of the rising attorneys of the Wetzel county bar is Edwin O. Keifer, Esq., junior member of the law firm of Wiley & Keifer. Mr. Keifer is one of the youngest attorneys in the state and also one of the most progressive. He was born February 2, 1872, at Sardis, O., just across the river from New Martinsville, W. Va. His father was George Keifer and his mother before marriage was Miss Alvilla Van Camp. The senior Mr. Keifer was born and raised near Powhattan, O., and his wife at Point Pleasant, W. Va. They located in Wetzel county in 1873, and are



EDWIN O. KEIFER, LAWYER.

yet living. They are the parents of four children.

Edwin O., the subject of this sketch, with his brothers, attended the public schools of New Martinsville called the Magnolia district, and afterwards he went to Parkersburg, where he finished a course in the Washington High School. After this he taught school for three years, and then attended Duff's Business College, Pittsburg, where he studied commercial business methods, and was finally offered a position with H. T. Gailey's Installment House. This work was too monotonous however, and Mr. Keifer left it determined to complete a course at law. He entered the West Virginia State University at Morgantown, and by close application and hard study he graduated with the class of '97, of

which he was secretary and treasurer. His graduation took place on June 9, and just five days afterward he formed a partnership with W. S. Wiley, Esq., one of the leading attorneys at the Wetzel county bar. He was admitted to practice at a special session of court on Thursday and on Friday he argued his first case—an injunction proceeding—which he won, and his reputation was at once established. He has thorough confidence in himself, and his clients which number the best people in the county, are inspired to trust their cases to his hands.

ALVA B. MOORE, COURT STENOGRAPHER.

One of the most progressive and energetic young men of New Martinsville is Alva B. Moore, present circuit court stenographer. He is a son of the Hon. Shriver Moore, president of the Tyler county court, and was born near Pursley, in June, 1867. He graduated in the public schools of his native district and then took a course in higher studies, fitting himself for a teacher. He followed this vocation quite successfully for some time. He engaged with his brother to assist in helping about a saw-mill, but after eight months hard work and with only 30 cents borrowed money he started for New Martinsville, and after a short time entered upon the publication of the Wetzel Republican. He chose as his motto "Everlastingly at it," and with these meaning words at the head of his editorial page he wielded the pen day and night almost in making the paper a success. Starting under such embarrassing circumstances and with a very incomplete outfit he managed to establish a well equipped plant and office. In 1897 the managing editor, advertising solicitor, reporter and general solicitor all in one, A. B. Moore, was appointed by Judge Romeo



ALVA B. MOORE, COURT STENOGRAPHER.

H. Freer, court stenographer of the Fourth Judicial district, for services he had rendered to the Republican cause. He still holds this position. He

is a member of both the Junior Order of American Mechanics and the Sons of Veterans.

Mr. Moore was married September 5, 1877, to Miss Minnie Tisher, daughter of Daniel Tisher, of Hannibal, O., and they live in a cozy and neat little home on Maple avenue, New Martinsville.

M'INTIRE & M'INTIRE, LAWYERS.

The law firm of McIntire & McIntire, of New Martinsville, Wetzel county, is composed of father and son, J. W. McIntire and Lloyd McIntire, Esq's.

The senior member is noted throughout West Virginia as being one of the ablest criminal lawyers in the "Little Mountain State." He was born June 6, 1851 near Powhattan, O. His father was S. C. McIntire, who was born in Belmont county, O., and died in August, 1895. His mother before marriage was Charlotte Hurley, born at Hagerstown, Md., and died 1885. J. W. McIntire came to Wetzel county at the age of 17, as teacher in the public schools, which profession he continued to follow from 1868 to 1882, at one time being a member of the board of school examiners. In 1871 he married M. J. Harbison, of Marshall county, W. Va. Mr. McIntire studied law under Basil T. Bowers,

every of the circuit court of Wetzel county. Mr. McIntire owns large real estate interests in and about New Martinsville, and has been quite successful in life.

Mr. McIntire is the father of five children, Miss Decie being the oldest. She attended the public schools of New Mar-



LYOYD V. M'INTIRE, ESQ.

tinsville and the State normal school at West Liberty, and at present is one of the teachers in the Magnolia high school. The other children are, Lloyd, junior member of the law firm, Thayer, now a student in the Magnolia high school, and Earl and Mont, also students in the high schools. Mr. McIntire is a Mason, being a member of lodge No. 33, at New Martinsville.

Lloyd, the junior member of the law firm has had a very rapid career in reaching his present position as a member of the Wetzel county bar. After graduating from the Magnolia high school, he took a course of law in the State University at Morgantown and graduated with the class of '97, being admitted to the bar before he was 21 years old. He is a member in high standing of the Wetzel law fraternity, and is acknowledged as one of the rising attorneys of West Virginia, with bright prospects and the goal of his ambition before him.

D. N. MANGOLD, HARNESS AND SADDLES.

D. N. Mangold, the leading harness maker in New Martinsville was born in Belmont county, O., in 1856. He moved to New Martinsville in 1880, where he has built up quite an extensive trade. He is a Republican and a member of the M. E. church.

The facilities possessed by Mr. Mangold in the harness, saddlery and trunk trade, and for the production of a high quality of goods, are not excelled anywhere. While the guarantee that goes with all products, is proof of the care exercised in workmanship, and the reliability of the stock used or the high reputation achieved, is not only at-

tributable to the quality of the goods but likewise to the uniformly equitable policy that has dominated the operations of the house from its very beginning.

This business was originally established in 1880, by Mangold & Anslutz, which continued until 1886 when by mutual consent the firm dissolved, Mr. Mangold becoming sole owner, and the volume of trade now covered, reflects credit on the retail business of the town. Mr. Mangold has direct communication with the leading leather makers of the country, and secures his stock from the best possible sources, thus it will be seen that he is in a position to give his patrons the full benefit of these advantages. He makes a specialty of custom made harness and saddles, and carries a full and complete line of turf goods, single and double, light and heavy harness, nets, robes, dusters, whips, collars, blankets, oils and trunks, valises, and travelers outfits. In this department will be found a large and complete assortment from the leading manufacturers. The house gives employment to a number of skilled and experienced workmen. And is also an extensive dealer in tan bark. Personally, Mr. Mangold is among our most public spirited citizens, and is always first in the movement to advance anything for the collective good of the community. This establishment is located on South Main street opposite the Wetzel County Bank, and next door to Josephus Clark.

THE WETZEL REPUBLICAN.

The Wetzel Republican, published at New Martinsville, was established on May 10, 1888, with A. B. Moore as publisher, and M. D. Hanes and J. W. McIntire, editors.

Like almost all such papers, it has had its "ups and downs," at times being reduced to very "straightened circumstances," but its management has displayed that indomitable courage and pluck, without which newspaper enterprises would invariably come naught.

Notwithstanding all the difficulties and obstacles against which the Republican has necessarily had to struggle, it has successfully surmounted them all, and, although the recognized organ of a party contending against an overwhelming adverse majority, it has now at the beginning of its eleventh year, perhaps the largest bonafide circulation ever attained by a Wetzel county newspaper, and an ample and permanent financial basis.

As an advertising medium the Republican is easily the peer of any weekly published between Wheeling and Parkersburg, as evidenced by the fact that almost all available advertising space is constantly occupied.

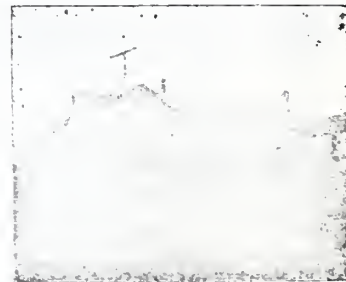
The present editor and proprietor of the Republican, B. Burt Muhlenman, is a young man of unusual ability and energy and possess those peculiar instincts and qualifications which belong

to the successful editor, as those necessary for the efficient management of a paper as a business enterprise. Associated with him is Will T. Sidell, a young attorney who has had considerable experience during the past eight years in the various departments of newspaper work.

THE ELK HOTEL.

Leading Hotel in the Bustling Town of New Martinsville.

In the estimation of the traveling public to say nothing of that of the domestic population there is nothing which adds so much to the prestige and attractiveness of a town as first class hotel accommodations. New Martinsville is not behind in this respect, and the Elk House is known for miles around as the leading and most up-to-date hostelry in Wetzel county. The building is a neat two story frame structure with about 20 rooms. The Elk is the only hotel in New Martinsville within a block of the Ohio River railroad. It is in plain sight of the passenger station and traveling men make it their stopping place. On the first floor of the building is the office, parlor, dining room, wash room and on the second floor the sleeping apartments. The house is equipped with the most modern conveniences. The rooms are airy, cozy and well furnished. A splendid, well provisioned table has



THE ELK HOTEL, NEW MARTINSVILLE.

made the place a favorite with travelers who are never allowed to go hungry. A porter meets all incoming and outgoing trains and busses are near at hand.

Mine Host Ed. R. Meese is well known to the people of the read, as he spent several years traveling himself. He came from Salem, O., in 1897, and took charge of the hotel after it had run down, and by persistency and ability he has won the patronage of the leading people. His wife also takes great pains in looking after the comfort of the guests and both ladies and gentlemen at the Elk House receive a warm welcome. Mr. Meese is a member of the B. P. O. Elks Lodge at Salem, O. He is a society man and well known to everybody in New Martinsville. Many salesmen and traveling men are indebted to him for favors in the way of introductions and "stand-ins" which they could not have secured without his kind assistance.



J. W. M'INTIRE, ESQ.

Esq., of New Martinsville, and was admitted to the bar, June 11, 1879, since which time he has had a steady and growing practice, as a criminal lawyer, being counsel and associate counsel in some of the most noted cases ever tried in West Virginia. He has not only figured in the history of Wetzel county as an attorney of more than ordinary prominence, but a politician as well. He was associated with J. E. Hart in the publication of the "Volunteer" and in 1888 he and A. B. Moore, Esq., founded the "Wetzel Republican," they edited until recent years. In addition to his public work along this line, he served as postmaster at Newdale, Wetzel county for four years under the Republican administration, and is at present master commissioner in chan-

THE NEW BRAST HOTEL.

New Martinsville to Have a Big Improvement Soon.

New Martinsville is to have a new first class hotel. It will be erected by the Brast Brothers, of whom there are four: William, A. E., M. A. and Jacob. These gentlemen came from Powhattan, O., and have resided in New Martinsville for 22 years. They are progressive citizens, that is why they are building the new hotel. It is to be a fine three story structure with a basement and the whole building modern throughout. It will be located on the site of the old Brast House opposite the court house, and will be 60x90 feet. The material to be used is brick and stone, and the architecture will be as fine as it is possible to secure. The site chosen is one of the finest along the Ohio Valley. The new building will command a fine view of the river from a high bank on the principal street of the town, and a fine lawn surrounding the place will mark more distinctly its beauty and grandeur.

The first story of the new hotel will consist of an office 11x17 feet, dining room 30x76 feet, parlor 20x30 feet, large up-to-date sample room for salesmen, and an excellent bar. The second and third floors of course will contain the sleeping apartments, of which there will be 46. These will be furnished in the latest and most comfortable style consistent with \$2 rates. The bill of fare of the new hotel will be whatever luxuries the market affords.

The contract for the erection of the building will be let early in July, and the whole structure will be completed and furnished some time in November. This improvement will place New Martinsville on a par with Sistersville in the matter of hotel accommodations.

Plans are on exhibition at New Martinsville, and bids will be received for the erection of this building up to July 1.

ARCHITECT AND BUILDER.

J. P. Chaplen Has Left Monuments to His Skill and Workmanship.

What a man does is the real test of what he is. In line with this maxim, J. P. Chaplen, of New Martinsville, has proven his worth to the community in a way that will live long after his life's work is ended. The finest architecture of the town is his and it will stand as a monument to his skill as long as the wood and stone in the structures shall last. Mr. Chaplen was born in Old Virginia in 1856, but came to Wetzel county at an early age, where he has spent nearly all his life. He is not only an architect, but a builder as well, and some of the finest residences at the county seat were erected by him. Among those he has designed and built is the home of Ex-Sheriff D. H. Cox, a half tone engraving of which appears in another part of this work. This is only one specimen, and we call attention to it in particular because it is the admi-

ration of the whole community. There are many others throughout the section which he has designed and erected, and the present postoffice building now being put up is his plan of architecture. He has been unusually successful in his line, simply because he has shown the competency of a skilled mechanic. In addition to this part of his work, Mr. Chaplen has done considerable geological work in the oil and gas fields, where he is financially interested. Mr. Chaplen was married in 1882 to Miss A. J. Hendschilt, and they are the parents of two children—James, Jr. and Lulu N.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

COUNTY JUDGE JAMES JOLLIFF.

Judge James Jolliff was born in Wetzel county in 1836. His parents were country folks and he spent most of his early life on a farm and going to subscription school. Having acquired a taste for farm life, Mr. Jolliff continued to follow the vocation and now owns real estate to the amount of 420 acres. All of this he has leased to his sons except 152 acres which he yet manages himself. Mr. Jolliff moved to the village of Pine Grove where he was elected supervisor in 1859, and served two years. Shortly afterwards he was elected president of the board of education which office he held for a period of 12 years. In 1888, he was elected county judge and re-elected again in 1894, his term not expiring until 1900.

Mr. Jolliff was married in 1856 to Miss Ruth Long, and they are the parents of five children, all living and married. Mrs. Jolliff died in 1891, and Mr. Jolliff was again married in 1894 to Mrs. Burton. Mr. Jolliff is a member of the Baptist church and he has been a Democrat all his life.

POSTMASTER JAMES F. McCASKEY.

The present postmaster of New Martinsville is James F. McCaskey, who secured the position through Congressman Dovener. Mr. McCaskey was born in New Martinsville in 1869. He secured a common school education and was married to Miss Clara Sebar in 1890. To them have been born three children, Justice E., Mildred A. and a child who is yet an infant.

Mr. McCaskey received his commission as postmaster in 1893, under the Republican administration, and he is now erecting a handsome new building which is to be utilized as an office for Uncle Sam as soon as it is completed.

The location of the building is opposite the court house near to the Wetzel County Bank. The structure will be 25x38 feet and three stories in height. The building will be large and roomy and will serve other purposes than that alone of being a postoffice. The upper rooms will be occupied and the whole structure utilized to the best advantage. Contractor Burkardt is rushing the work and it is believed it will be ready by July 15.

BRIDGEMAN & SON, HARDWARE MERCHANTS.

Bridgeman & Son, dealers in general hardware, agricultural implements, vehicles of all kinds, stoves, hardware, etc., are well known throughout Wetzel county. Their place of business is in New Martinsville, in the Hall building. B. C. Bridgeman was born in Monroe county, O., in 1846, and moved to Wetzel county in 1873, where he bought a farm in Magnolia district. In 1893 he started a general hardware store on Main street, near the postoffice. As it is decided to move the postoffice, Mr. Bridgeman decided to follow the procession, and has located in the Hall property, where he keeps the largest and best line of hardware in the town. Mr. Bridgeman has taken his son, John H., into partnership with him, and they are doing a splendid business. They are agents for the famous Kramer wagons, and have sold quite a large number to Wetzel county people. R. C. Bridgeman was married in 1870 at Sistersville to Miss Mary Gilles, and they are the parents of three sons and three daughters. Mr. Bridgeman is a Republican, and his sons are following in his footsteps in the matter of politics.

F. F. MORGAN, WETZEL COUNTY SURVEYOR.

The surveyor of Wetzel county is F. F. Morgan, who was born September 8, 1848. He attended the subscription and public schools of his native district in Wetzel county until he secured a sound practical education. He remained on the farm until 24 years of age and was engaged in running a mill. He was married in February, 1877, to Miss M. V. West, and they went to Southern Kansas, where they resided for a period of two years, then returning to Wetzel county. In 1888 Mr. Morgan was elected county surveyor in which he has served for two terms. He has filled the office satisfactorily to the people and his services have been for the best interests of those who employed him. He is a Democrat and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Morgan is the happy father of eight children, six daughters and two sons. The family resides about two miles above Piney Fork.

JAMES E. YOUNG, LOANS AND COLLECTIONS.

James E. Young was born March 23, 1858, in New Martinsville. In his youthful days he attended the subscription and public schools. After graduating he taught school for a short time in New Martinsville, and then kept books for the Singer Sewing Machine Manufacturing company for three years. At the expiration of that time he commenced the study of law; admitted to the bar on the 9th day of October, 1880; appointed notary public in 1881, and is one of the oldest of the notaries in the county at present. He was elected constable in 1892, and justice of the peace in 1896. Mr. Young is a Democrat by a large majority, and

supported the Chicago convention very strongly in 1888, and is also a very great admirer of Hon. Wm. J. Bryan. Mr. Young married Miss Catherine R. Peterson, daughter of Col. S. M. Peterson, April 10, 1888. Three children are now living, Frank A., Charles B., and Harry J. Mr. Young makes a specialty of collecting and negotiating loans, and no one has a better standing in the county. All who need Mr. Young's services will be duly satisfied with his work. Mr. Young and family belong to the Southern Methodist church.

EX-SHERIFF D. H. COX.

D. H. Cox, the ex-sheriff of Wetzel county, a cut of whose elegant residence in New Martinsville appears in another part of this work, is one of the most prominent citizens of this section of West Virginia. He was born in New Martinsville in 1846, and was married in 1867. He has been blessed with five children, but through illness some have died. Mr. Cox was engaged in the lumber business until 1892, when he was elected sheriff on the Democratic ticket. He served for a period of four years and was one of the most popular and efficient men that ever filled the office. His home is on Main street south of the public square, and it is one of the finest residences in New Martinsville or Wetzel county.

CHARLES J. BECK, MEAT MARKET.

One of the best meat markets in New Martinsville is that conducted by Charles J. Beck. Mr. Beck came to New Martinsville in 1881, and has been there ever since. He was born in Saxony, Germany, in 1857, and came to this country with his parents when he was 15 years old. He started out early to make his own way in the world, and he was the first man to run a daily meat market in New Martinsville. The meats are kept cool by a fine large refrigerator and everything about the shop is kept in thoroughly first-class condition. A delivery wagon is sent to customers bright and early each morning and the housekeeper gets her choice. Mr. Beck was married in 1881, to Mary Aeinold, and they are the parents of three children—Emma, Albert and Carl.

JOHN SKELLY, HOTEL EAKIN.

John Skelly, bar tender at the Eakin Hotel, at New Martinsville, is a hale fellow well met. Mr. Skelly is one of the most genial men in his line in West Virginia. He came to New Martinsville from Salem, O., where he was manager of a large hotel and bar. Mr. Skelly is a man who attends strictly to his own business and treats everybody with courtesy and consideration. His experience at the bar has made him familiar with all classes, and he knows how to handle them. Mr. Skelly is married and has a fine family. They are well liked in New Martinsville.

Locate in New Martinsville—the most beautiful town on the Ohio

DEPUTY SHERIFF H. B. SHRIVER.

The deputy sheriff of Tyler county under Stephen G. Pyle, is H. B. Shriver, of Pursley. Mr. Shriver is a native of Tyler, having been born here August 18, 1862. He was educated in the public schools of his native district, and at an early age was able to pass a teacher's examination. He procured a situation at once as teacher, and followed the vocation for a period of 10 years with great success. He took an active part in politics upon reaching his majority and as a reward for his services in the Republican ranks he was made deputy assessor under G. W. Sine, and also under J. W. Grim. Upon the election of Stephen G. Pyle to the office of sheriff in 1898. Mr. Shriver was appointed deputy and he has filled the office ever since. His duties consist in collecting taxes, serving summonses and making arrests when detailed so to do. He is a polite and efficient officer and well liked throughout the county. He makes his headquarters at Middlebourne and, Sistersville and is at all times accomodating to those he can aid. Mr. Shriver married Bertha A. Doak, daughter of Alexander Doak, and to them have been born three children, Mary S., Harry L. and Mildred. The family attend the Christian church at Pursley of which they are members.

H. M'ELDOWNEY, COURT STENOGRAPHER.

Harry McEldowney, former court stenographer under Judge Jacobs, and who is now doing general shorthand work and court reporting, was born in New Martinsville in 1868. He attended the public schools of that place and finally became a compositor on the Wetzel County Democrat, the leading newspaper in the county. He followed this vocation for seven years and then quit to take up a course of study at Duff's Commercial College in Pittsburg. He soon completed a course in shorthand and typewriting, and upon the election of T. P. Jacobs as judge of the Fourth judicial circuit, Mr. McEldowney was appointed official court stenographer, which position he resigned upon the election of Judge Freer. So accurate and careful has been his work that he is regarded by the legal fraternity throughout the district as one of the most efficient stenographers who ever held the position. Mr. McEldowney, like his uncle, is a Democrat of strong tendencies and a hard campaigner for his party.

S. BRUCE HALL, LAWYER.

A prominent member at the Wetzel county bar is S. Bruce Hall, of New Martinsville. He was born in New Martinsville in 1858, and received his early education in the subscription and public schools, afterwards attending Waynesburg College at Waynesburg, Pa., and later the West Virginia State University at Morgantown. He took a law course at the latter institution and was admitted to the bar in 1882. He

settled at New Martinsville and enjoys a lucrative practice in Wetzel, Tyler and Pleasants counties. Mr. Hall was married in June, 1887, to Miss Kate E. Hornbrook, of New Martinsville, and they are the parents of two children yet living. Kent B., 10 years old, and William Mack two years of age. Mr. Hall owns a beautiful home on the avenue in New Martinsville. He is a Democrat of the old school and a member of the Episcopalian church.

STROPE & EVANS' LIVERY.

Two Former Pennsylvanians Buy Out Foster Leap's Stables in New Martinsville.

One of the recent business changes in New Martinsville has been the transfer of the Foster Leap livery to Strobe & Evans, two old and experienced men in their line. They have located in New Martinsville permanently, both being satisfied that it has the brightest outlook of any town along the Ohio river outside of Sistersville. They expect to do an exclusive livery business without heavy contract hauling. Of course their line will include the sale of feed and buying and selling of horses, which they expect to do on a large scale. They have as completely an equipped livery as is to be found anywhere, and they propose to hire the rigs out at reasonable prices. As the proof of the pudding is the eating thereof so is the testing of the Strobe & Evans livery a proof of the kind of service they render. Both men are thoroughly educated in their line and will be glad to receive your patronage.

George Strobe was born in Greene county, Pa. He has been in West Virginia the past eighteen years and in Wetzel the past year. He is married and is the father of one son.

J. S. Evans is also a native of Greene county, Pa., and has been in the state of West Virginia five years, mostly in Marshall county.

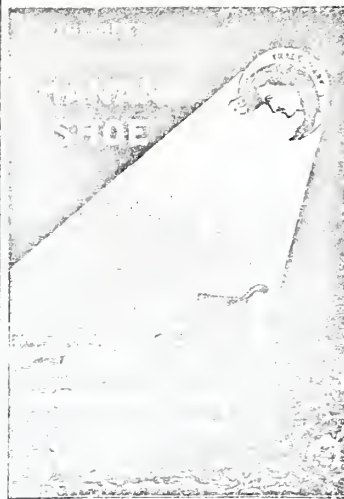
LUMBER INTERESTS.

There is perhaps, no other state in the Union that is the superior of West Virginia as a producer of valuable lumber. Her hills and valleys are studded with a variety and quality that is not surpassed by any place in the universe. It has been said, and we believe, truthfully, that no other section of the state comprising the same area, has marketed a greater quantity of lumber than the Little Kanawha.

The Little Kanawha river has many tributaries, the principal of which are the Hughes river, North and South Fork and West Fork.

These rivers have annually pushed into this market enormous as well as a constant supply of the very finest timber.

An approximate estimate of the extent of the traffic of this line can be made from the annual reports of the Little Kanawha Navigation Company. In the year 1892, there was collected \$31,396.49 as tolls, and this amount was principally for timber rafts that had passed through the locks and over the dams, and represents about 3,500 rafts, equal to forty-five millions of superficial feet of lumber. These figures represent approximately the annual average for six or seven years previous to 1892.

**QUEEN & THOENEN,
FINE * SHOES,**

Sistersville, W. Va.

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ADDITIONAL BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

HON. L. M. STEPHENS, M. L.

One of the representative and leading citizens of New Martinsville is the present representative in the legislature, Hon. L. M. Stephens, who is both lawyer and politician. He was born May 4, 1864, in Wetzel county. His father was Pollard Stephens, a native of Greene county, Pa., and his mother before marriage Elizabeth Rose, of the same county, who came to West Virginia in 1863.



HON. L. M. STEPHENS.

settling at Burton, on the B. & O. railroad. The son received his early education at Uniontown, Wetzel county. He has been a Democrat all his life, and in the fall of 1896 he was elected to the West Virginia Legislature from Wetzel county, which he continues to represent. He led a strong faction in the fight against dividing the county and establishing a capital at Mannington. He was opposed by Mr. Garvin, of Ohio county, and after a most bitter contest the question was defeated February 20, 1897, by a majority vote in the House in favor of keeping the county lines intact. Mr. Stephens secured the only Democratic appointment in the state, as the House and Senate were strongly Republican—that of page—for John McEl-downey, Jr., son of the late Democratic postmaster of New Martinsville. Mr. Stephens was then chosen a member of the constitutional commission, by the Senate and House, which position he still retains.

In business he has been quite as successful as in politics, being superintendent of the Central West Virginia Oil Company, a stockholder in the New Martinsville bank and a member of the firm of Stephens & Lechner, furniture dealers, undertakers and embalmers. He was also admitted to the Wetzel county bar to practice law in 1897.

Mr. Stephens was married July 4, 1894, to Miss Alice Richardson, daughter of Ephriam Richardson, of Marshall

county. To this union has been born one son, Lindsay Bryan Stephens.

Mr. Stephens is also interested in the oil development of this section, and is a property owner to a considerable extent.

DR. JACOB YOUNG.

The oldest medical practitioner perhaps in the Fourth Judicial Circuit, outside of General T. M. Harris, of Harrisville, is Dr. Jacob Young, of New Martinsville. He was born April 8, 1819, in the city of Baltimore and emigrated to Pittsburg with his parents when he was eight years old. His father was Richard Young. Dr. Young came to Tyler county in 1845, settling at Sistersville. While here he met Miss Anna Engle, daughter of Ezra Engle, and sister of the ex-circuit clerk Mr. Engle, of Middlebourne, a sketch of whom appears in another part of this work. Dr. Young practiced medicine at Sistersville for a while, and then went to Middlebourne and afterwards to West Union. He remained in that place only a short time, and then settled at New Martinsville, where he has since resided. He was the first vice president of the State Medical Society, of which he is still a member. Dr. Young was a member of the New Martinsville Board of Health, but resigned on account of his age and extensive practice. He is a Republican of the Abraham Lincoln stamp and a man of strong character and personality.

Dr. and Mrs. Young are the parents of two sons. Hon. Frank D. Young, practicing attorney at Sistersville, and James E. Young, Esq., who is filling the office of justice at New Martinsville.

FRANCIS V. COX, M. D.

The leading practicing physician of Wetzel county is Francis V. Cox, of New Martinsville. He was born May



FRANCIS V. COX, M. D.

17, 1851 at Clarington, O. His father was Edward B. Cox, a native of Old Vir-

ginia, who received his education at the Monongalia academy, now known as the State University. He also taught school in Ohio and was an artist of some note. He served as postmaster at Clarington one term and held other positions of trust.

Francis V. Cox was educated at Clarington and later studied homeopathy under Dr. T. C. Kiger, at Marietta. Allopathy under Dr. James Smith at Clarington, O., and later took a course in the eclectic school of medicine at Cincinnati. He began his practice in 1871 at Clarington, after an experience along the Ohio Valley he settled at New Martinsville, July 1895, where he has built up a large and still growing practice. Mr. Cox founded the Medical Society of the Ohio Valley, and is now a member of the Medical and Surgical Society of Ohio, and Fellow of the American association of Physicians and Surgeons. He is also visiting surgeon to the McMaster hospital at Wheeling, W. Va. Dr. Cox makes a specialty of surgery and diseases of women and he has, perhaps as fine a collection of instruments as is to be found anywhere in the State of West Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania, outside of the medical and surgical colleges. In addition to being a physician and surgeon he is also a registered pharmacist and compounds nearly all of his own medicines.

Dr. Thomas V. Cox was married June, 1870, to Jenoa Smith, daughter of Isaac Smith, of Marshall county, W. Va., and to them have been born six children: Mary Bell, married to Albert Priest, of New Martinsville; Anna, married to Wilford B. Crandall, of New York; Clara L., Charles W., Fannie M. and Pearl L.

DUERR BROTHERS, CLOTHIERS, FURNISHERS

One of the finest merchant tailoring establishments in New Martinsville is that conducted by the Duerr Brothers. They have been in business for 15 years and garments turned out by them are up-to-date in fit, fabric and finish. The Duerr Brothers have such confidence in their workmanship that a perfect fit of clothing is guaranteed. In regard to prices this establishment always gives the very lowest consistent with the quality of goods and the style of workmanship. Of course other merchants may sell goods cheaper, but none will give the quality, style and make for prices below those quoted by the Duerr Brothers. They also do a large business in the gents' furnishing line. All the latest novelties are kept in shirts, collars, cuffs, ties, suspenders, hats and underwear. In fact there is nothing which a man wears to complete his dress that the Duerr Brothers do not sell. A fine line of jewelry of everything new and up-to-date is kept in stock. Diamonds and the unique fad souvenirs may be found here from the lowest to the highest price. In addition to these several branches of business, the Duerr Brothers have a repair-

ing department where gentlemen may have garments made over, repaired and put in proper condition. There is no better place to trade than at the Duerr Brothers' large store on Main street.

CHARLES W. BARRACK, INSURANCE.

Charles W. Barrack, of New Martinsville, does one of the largest insurance and brokerage business of any man in West Virginia. Mr. Barrack was born



CHARLES W. BARRACK, INSURANCE.

at Barracksville, Marion county, and came to New Martinsville in 1879. He was employed in the county clerk's office for a time, and served as deputy sheriff under B. B. Posledewalt. He was twice elected recorder of New Martinsville and served also as mayor.

Mr. Barrack has been in the insurance and brokerage business since 1880. He now devotes almost his entire time to The Home Society, a corporation doing business under the laws of West Virginia, in making loans and investments. Real estate is also managed and sold by Mr. Barrack as well as risks placed in reliable insurance companies. Mr. Barrack is a Democrat in politics and a member of the Methodist church.

Mr. Barrack was married in 1884 to Gertrude F. McCabe and to them have been born five children, C. Grover, J. Paul, William D., Lyda M., and G. F. The family residence is on Main street and the office is near by. Mr. Barrack is careful in business and any matters entrusted to him will be properly handled.

THE RACKET STORE.

The Racket Store, New Martinsville, is one of the leading establishments of that live and bustling town. It is conducted by W. W. Lappert and C. C. Rea, and was opened February 17, 1898. The store has been patronized so well that the firm has continually added new stock and now has a line of goods that will compare favorably with any store in the country of its kind. Everything that a housewife needs is kept here, be-

sides a fine line of jewelry and clocks, crayon portraits, pastels, paintings and fine chromo work. Messrs. Lappert and Rea are both from Ohio and they are courteous gentlemen. They may always be found at their post of duty, and patrons will receive not only the best treatment, but goods will be sold at the lowest possible prices.

THE OLDEST MAN.

Isaac Smith Older Than any Other Citizen of the Fourth Judicial Circuit.

One of the most remarkable men in the history of West Virginia is Isaac Smith. He is perhaps the oldest man within the boundary of half a dozen states. He was born at Williamsport, Washington county, Pa., in 1789, and will be 109 years old if he lives until September of the present year. Unlike the "oldest" citizen he has not seen Lafayette, General Washington, Thomas Jefferson and all the great characters in the history of our country. Mr. Smith is a man of simple nature, kind, strong and always industrious. Notwithstanding his advanced age he shows as much vigor and strength as men 40 years his junior. The photograph here shown was taken especially for this edition; It is the first picture Mr. Smith has ever had taken of himself. He lives in what is known as Proctor Hollow, a ravine a few miles in length, running east and west through Wetzel county. His residence is a small log cabin about two miles from Proctor Station on the Ohio River railroad. He erected the building with his own hands when he came to West Virginia with his family 69 years ago. Then the country was a wide forest with only a few families scattered over the county.



ISAAC SMITH, 109 YEARS OLD.

Mr. Smith's nearest neighbor was a man named Hogan, who resided with his family five miles further up the run. When Mr. Smith was seen by a writer for this edition he told of his early life as a man of 60 years might have done. His grasp was yet strong, his mind perfectly clear, and his vision as good, he said, as the day he was 20 years old. He uses a staff when he walks and is yet able to travel 10 to 15 miles per day. He is said to have been the strongest man in West Virginia in

his time. Some of the older residents who remember him when he was 40 to 50 years of age, say he could lift a barrel of whisky and drink out of the bung hole, and that he has often picked up two barrels of salt set one upon the other at a single lift. But of these things Mr. Smith never boasts. He has a smile for everyone and enjoys a good joke as well as any person. He said he followed the occupation of keel boating on the Monongahela river until he was 40 years of age, when he sold out his property and moved to West Virginia. When he settled at Proctor there were few if any Indians yet remaining, and the only thing to be feared was from wild animals, catamounts, wild cats and a few wolves. There was also plenty of wild game. Mr. Smith's father settled at Elizabeth, Pa., in the latter part of the last century. His name was Samuel Smith, and he married Sallie Watt, the result of which union was several sons, among them being the subject of this sketch. Isaac Smith received very little education, but learned the trade of keel boating at an early age, which he followed many years. He married Sarah Hutson, and to them were born five sons, Robert, Charles, Thomas, Samuel and John. Mr. Smith makes his home with his grandson, Albert Anderson, who lives on the old homestead, where his mother was born and raised.

HON. WILLIAM SEYMOUR EDWARDS.

Distinguished Career of One of Kanawha County's Brainiest Young Men.

William Seymour Edwards was raised among the picturesque surroundings of Kanawha and Fayette counties, his father living, as now, at Coaiburg about 20 miles above Charleston.

His family have for some 50 years been conspicuous figures in the industrial movement of the Great Kanawha Valley. As early as 1852 both his grandfather, Col. William W. Edwards, and his father, Hon. W. H. Edwards, began the development of Kanawha's coal fields and mines, and did more than almost any other men of that section and of Virginia to call the attention of the outside world to the yet undeveloped wealth of Kanawha's hills and mountains.

After passing his boyhood in Kanawha, he studied at Cornell University and the Columbia Law School, in New York, at which latter institution he was graduated with honors in 1881. He then returned to Kanawha county to begin the practice of law. He has been as successful in affairs as at the bar, having built up a fine practice and achieved success in business affairs that but rarely comes so early in men's life. He is the author of an important book upon the coals and cokes of southern West Virginia, it being the most specific and comprehensive work yet published upon that subject; as well as issuing many articles and public speeches upon the industrial and political questions of

the day. Among the many successful enterprises with which his name is connected, none perhaps is more conspicuous than that of finding and finally supplying to Charleston the natural gas with which the city is now piped; as well as the present pending development of the great coal field of the

with his co-delegates, by the largest legislative majority in the state, some 8,100 votes.

In January, 1895, he was elected Speaker of the House of Delegates of West Virginia, after a contest, and filled that position with distinguished ability, proving himself one of the



EXCHANGE BANK BUILDING, WHEELING, W. VA.

Paint Creek Valley, the management of which is in his hands. He has brought thousands of dollars into West Virginia and thereby been of incalculable benefit to the people of Kanawha, as well as the people of the State at large.

In politics, his career has also been eminently successful. Nominated at the head of the poll in 1892, for the state legislature, he was elected by a handsome majority. In that House he distinguished himself by his loyalty to the interests of the people, his uncompromising sense of honor, and as a man having the courage of his convictions. He fought for the eight hour law; he led the ballot for a longer term for the free schools and a better chance for the children. He introduced the bill providing for the employment of the convicts from the state penitentiary and jails upon the public roads under one comprehensive system, thereby giving cheaper haulage to the farmer, and ridding honest labor from the competition of convict toil. He waged unceasing war against legislative stealage and abuses. He stood then, and stands today, for better schools, better roads, shorter hours of labor, and retrenchment and reform in public expenditure and management.

In August, 1894, he was re-nominated to the legislature by an extraordinary majority—leading his ticket by some 857 votes at the primary election. After an active canvass, he was re-elected

best parliamentarians in the state, and enjoying the unique distinction of being the first Republican to preside over a legislative body in West Virginia since 1871.

EXCHANGE BANK OF WHEELING.

It Has a Capital of \$300,000 With a Double Liability.

The Exchange Bank of Wheeling has a capital of \$300,000 with a double liability, and offers to depositors exceptional security; has long been a city and state depository of public money; solicits accounts of banks, merchants and individuals and extends courtesy to all. The office building is one of the most complete in this section of the country, furnishing comfortable office accommodations with all modern improvements at reasonable prices with location unexcelled; near railroad stations, river and on the boundary between principal wholesale and retail districts of the city.

J. N. VANCE, President
JOHN FREW, Vice President
LAWRENCE L. SANDS, Cashier
W. B. IRVINE, Assistant Cashier

DIRECTORS.

J. N. Vance, President, Riverside Iron Works
John Frew, Editor, Intelligencer
W. E. Stone, Stone & Thomas, Dry Goods
Geo. E. Stifel, St. E. Stifel & Co., Dry Goods
John Waterhouse, Waterhouse Bros., Grocers
W. H. Faust, Merchant Tailor
Wm. Ellingham, Nell & Ellingham, Grocers
Dr. John L. Finney, Physician and Surgeon
John M. Brown, Capitalist

New Martinsville has an array of legal talent unexcelled in the state.

WETZEL COUNTY DIRECTORY.

All the Towns and Business Houses Within the County Limits.

Andy—Population, 100. Located 8 miles northeast of New Martinsville and 6 miles southeast of Proctor, on the O. R. R.; mail, tri-weekly; W. W. Yates, postmaster; A. T. Fair, general store and flour mill.

Clyde—A country postoffice in Wetzel county, 16 miles east of New Martinsville and 10 miles southeast of Littleton on the B. & O.; mail, semi-weekly; W. W. Lemasters, postmaster. P. J. J. Postlethwaite keeps a general store, and Thomas Pyle a general store.

Coburn—A country postoffice in Wetzel county, 30 miles east of New Martinsville, 12 miles from Mannington and 5 miles from Glover's Gap. Mail daily; U. B. Ice, postmaster, and general merchant.

Dean—Population, 30. Located 20 miles from New Martinsville, the county seat and banking point, and 8 miles from Littleton, the nearest shipping point; mail, daily; stage 10 miles to Burton. Andrew Clark, postmaster. Among the business houses represented are Charles Henderson, blacksmith; Andrew Clark, general store; James Clark, assessor; P. Clark, live stock; A. C. Crist, carpenter; W. R. Curtis, physician; Dunglang & Sapp, saw-mill; L. H. Haines, planing mill; T. P. Horner, notary; H. Hostutler, shoemaker; Mack Moore, carpenter; David Morris, music teacher; E. B. Postlethwaite, live stock; T. J. Postlethwaite, mason; J. L. Soie, general store; Lindsay Whistle, constable, and Morgan Wright, meats.

Folsom—A postoffice in Wetzel county, 40 miles southeast of New Martinsville and 15 miles from Mannington, the nearest shipping point. Mail, semi-weekly; H. Hood, general store; H. Morgan, general store; L. Starkey, general store.

Hazel—In the southwestern part of Wetzel county, 15 miles from New Martinsville, the nearest shipping and banking point; mail, daily. C. F. Flaherty, postmaster.

Hundred—An incorporated village in Wetzel county, 47 miles southeast of Wheeling on the B. & O. R. R., and 25 miles from New Martinsville on the O. R. R. Telephone and U. S. Express. J. B. White, postmaster; S. C. Ashcroft & Co., saw-mill; A. D. Ayrs, dry goods; Bartrug & Moore, woolen mill; Rev. U. S. Carroll, M. E. pastor; G. M. Church, confectioner; W. C. Cole, physician; F. M. Cross, saw-mill; Mrs. Phoebe Cross, dressmaker; D. Franklin & Sons, general store; F. M. Kerns, physician; C. A. Koon, marble works; W. H. Lee, hotel; F. A. Lebew, millinery; W. W. Roberts, publisher Wetzel Independent, Union Cornet Band; J. B. White, railroad and express agent; M. Windle, foundry.

Lot—In Wetzel county, 25 miles southeast of New Martinsville; mail,

daily. L. E. Lantz, postmaster and general store.

Marion—Population, 100. Eight miles northeast of New Martinsville, and four miles from Proctor, on the O. R. R. Mail daily. Mrs. H. A. Moore, postmistress; W. Arman, carpenter; J. A. Fitzsimmons, barber; J. M. Garrett, carpenter; R. W. Lemmon, plasterer; E. Moore, blacksmith; Rev. M. Moore, pension attorney; J. W. Palmer, wagon maker; Victor Ritz, blacksmith; David Warman, flour mill; J. W. Yoho, general store.

Littleton—Population, 500. Village on the B. & O., 25 miles east of New

ville, the nearest banking and shipping point; mail, tri-weekly; L. A. Benedine, postmaster; Edgar Nulton, constable; Theodore Halbur, wagon maker; Jolliff Brothers, flour mill; James Jolliff, carpenter; Rev. McCoy, Methodist minister; D. C. Mayhail, justice of the peace; R. L. Morgan, general store; F. F. Morgan, county surveyor; Stone Brothers, general store; T. M. Stone, physician; Amos Swisher, barber; John W. Wise, carpenter.

Proctor is a settlement on the O. R. R., 6 miles northeast of New Martinsville; Adams Express; telephone; mail



B. F. MEIGHEN, CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS IN THE FIRST DISTRICT.

Martinsville and 18 miles from Mannington. U. S. Express and W. U. Telegraph. Higgins, Ashcroft & Co., general store; E. H. Chaney, general store; Chaney & Co., flour mill; J. A. Connelly, hardware; A. M. Crow, general store; Thomas Dunnington, jeweler; M. Fahey, railroad and express agent; B. J. Farrell, druggist; Mrs. C. Hendricks, hotel; Hendricks & Co., cigar manufacturers; Higgins & Chamberlain, saw mill; D. S. Keefer, saloon; J. E. Loudenslager, grocer; J. R. Robinson, grocer; Wine Brothers, cigar manufacturers.

Pine Grove—Population, 190. Located 19 miles southeast of New Martins-

ville; Alice Wingrove, postmistress; A. T. Fair, general store; C. L. Moore, flour mill; John Harman, wagon maker; Patrick Harvey, saloon; E. R. Haight, physician; J. W. Monroe & Son, general store; Charles Stackhouse, barber; F. Stender, general store; John Trader, live stock; Joseph Young, gunsmith.

Maud—A country postoffice 8½ miles east of New Martinsville; mail, semi-weekly; F. E. Sutter, postmaster and general store.

Minnie—A country postoffice, 8 miles southeast of New Martinsville, its nearest shipping point; mail, daily; Ryan & Yoho, general store.

CONGRESSIONAL ASPIRANT.

B. F. Meighen, Esq., May Represent the First Congressional District of West Virginia.

B. F. Meighen, Esq., the subject of this sketch, is a Republican candidate for Congress in the first Congressional district of West Virginia. He began his public career as a school teacher in the free schools of the state. He taught one of the first schools of this kind in West Virginia near the town of Cameron. His early life was spent on a farm and he began teaching in 1866. He followed this vocation for seven years—teaching in the winter and attending college at Waynesburg during the summer and fall. After his graduation from that institution, he commenced the study of law and spent one year in the office of R. W. Downey, Esq., one of the leading attorneys of Western Pennsylvania. In the fall of 1875 Mr. Meighen located at Moundsville, W. Va., where he formed a partnership with Robert McConnell, Esq., which continued for a period of nine years. This law firm became known throughout this section of the state and the partners were engaged on some of the most important cases in Marshall and Wetzel counties. In 1884, Mr. Meighen was elected Prosecuting Attorney of his county, and at the expiration of his term was re-elected by a large majority—thus filling the position for a period of eight years. Mr. Meighen is now a member of the law firm of Meighen & Oldham. He served as chairman of the Republican Executive committee for two years, from 1890 to 1892. He has participated in every campaign in his state since 1880. At present he is a member of the Board of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane.

Mr. Meighen's father was T. H. Meighen, a soldier in Company F, of the Bloody 7th West Virginia Volunteers, and his mother was Elizabeth Hughes Meighen.

B. F. Meighen was married on January 3, 1882, to Miss Lydia F. Gaus, daughter of George C. Gaus, one of the leading physicians of Moundsville.

[Wetzel County Directory Continued.]

Newdale—A country postoffice, 10 miles east of New Martinsville and 38 miles from Wheeling. Proctor, on the O. R. R., nearest shipping point. Mail, daily. H. L. Taylor, postmaster; Amos James, shoemaker; August Buchman, saw and feed mill; Friend Palmer, wagon maker; Harrison L. Taylor, carpenter; J. W. Yates, physician.

Padon Valley—A village of about 45 inhabitants, on the O. R. R., five miles southwest of New Martinsville; mail, daily; Mrs. Elizabeth A. Pollock, postmistress; Jacob Denois, live stock; George Keifer, huckster; M. G. Sayres, railroad and express agent; S. A. & M. G. Sayres, general store.

Reader—A rural postoffice in Wetzel county; 15 miles southeast of New Martinsville, the nearest banking and ship-

ping point; mail daily; W. A. Morgan, postmaster; W. P. Allen, broker; Cochran & Long, general store; Ben Headley, meat market; M. A. Hadley, hotel and livery; John Lantz, live stock dealer; W. A. Morgan, justice.

Robinson's Mill—Population, 400. Located 35 miles southeast of New Martinsville and 12 miles from Mannington, the nearest shipping point; mail, daily; N. A. Ensinger, postmaster; C. Y. Amons, saloon; Samuel Barr, general store; J. M. Fair saloon; J. J. Freeland, saloon; Sam Humphrey & Bro., harness; Wesley McCance, general store; South Penn Oil Company, oil producers; O. A. Talkington, general store;

Smithfield—A village of 2,000 people in Wetzel county, 34 miles southeast of New Martinsville and 15 miles from Mannington. On the line of the proposed new railroad from New Martinsville to Clarksburg. Has a bank; stage, daily, to Mannington; telephone; H. L. Smith, postmaster; George Behrman, blacksmith; Conklin & Co., saloon; J. A. Davis, hotel; Harvey Brothers, general store; J. T. Long, oil driller; A. W. Nickel, oil driller; Oliver Brothers, hardware; Mac Shuman, hotel; H. L. Smith, general store; South Penn Oil Company, repair shops.

Uniontown—Postoffice in Wetzel county, 22 miles from New Martinsville and 6 miles from Littleton; William Bell, postmaster; C. A. Anderson, carpenter; L. Anderson, blacksmith; W. J. Andrews, flour mill; C. Brookover, general store; W. J. Cox, physician; J. T. Cross, meats; John Haines, carpenter; W. Heil, shoemaker; W. J. Hills, gunsmith; J. B. Jackson, flour mill; W. H. Lansley, physician; John Lavelle, hotel; A. E. Patterson, carpenter; C. Pettit, blacksmith; John Phillips, cooper; N. Phillips and S. B. Phillips, blacksmiths.

Vincent—A rural postoffice 12 miles southeast of New Martinsville; mail, tri-weekly.

West—A farmhouse postoffice 13 miles from New Martinsville and 12 miles from Belton; mail, tri-weekly.

Wileyville—Located 12 miles east of New Martinsville, the county seat, and nearest shipping point; mail, daily; M. Barr & Son, general store; A. F. Dulaney, general store; P. D. Morris, general store; Mrs. A. Shuman, hotel.

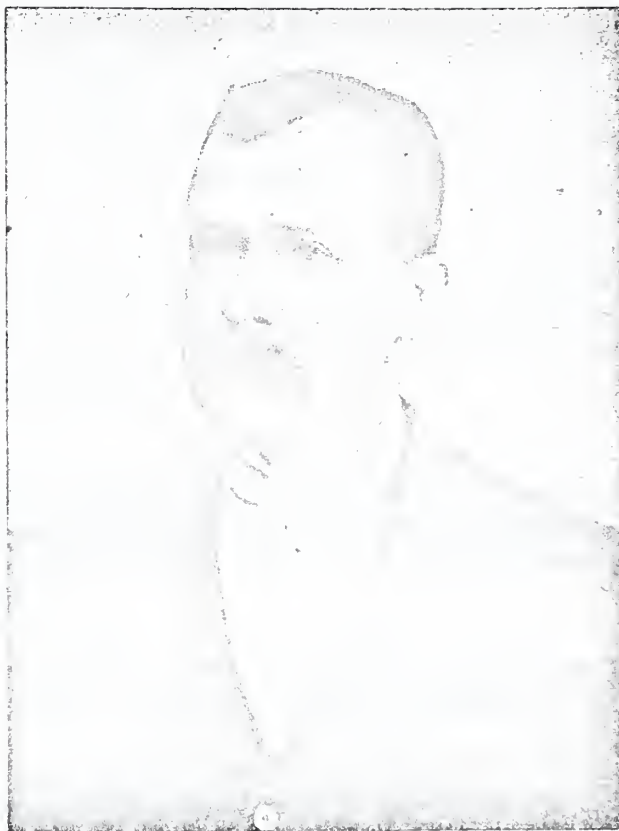
EX-SENATOR J. N. CAMDEN.

Ex-Senator Johnson N. Camden, who retired from the United States Senate in favor of Hon. Stephen B. Elkins, has for many years been connected with the best interests of our state, and has done much to open up our limitless resources and attract capital in our direction. During his long period of service in the legislative halls of the nation, Senator Camden has been untiring in his efforts for the benefit of his constituents, and he has as his reward the confidence and esteem of every true West Virginian. In the winter of 1895 when the landslide

of Republicanism swept away his chances of returning to the Senate, those Democrats who escaped defeat stood loyally by him, and, although a spirited contest occurred for the empty honor of nomination by the Democratic caucus, Senator Camden easily triumphed over his political foes, and received a vindication from his own party if not the Senatorial plum, which fell into the Republican camp.

Mr. Camden is an active and forcible campaigner, and continually keeps his eye to the windward to save his party from wreck and ruin upon the rocks of

judgment, the enlightened foresight, which utilize these lavish endowments to good purpose, and make them a media of usefulness and blessing. No loyal New Martinsville citizen, or in fact West Virginian, has the least misgiving as to the future of the town. The same forces and favors of nature that have aided in the town's advancement remain today to safeguard the future and insure a growth in all features of the town's material welfare, which will be no less rapid than in the past. The wonderful forward impulse enjoyed by American industries during



JOHN H. MCCOY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR SISTERSVILLE OIL REVIEW.

factionalism. In the Senate he was recognized as one of the party's strongest and brainiest men, and was continually in consultation with those who shaped the course of the National Democracy.

NEW MARTINSVILLE SIZED UP.

It is One of the Coming Towns of the Little Mountain State.

No other West Virginia town combines in its natural resources a greater wealth of endowments than New Martinsville. It is the center of the radius of supply for food and the necessities of existence; fuel, timber, plastic materials, and the manifold treasures which Mother Earth yields for the needs of man; thus, no doubt exists as to the town's bright future. The other factors in making the future a triumph are the spirit of industry, the gift of

the past third of a century has been felt with especial distinctness in New Martinsville and West Virginia, because here, as nowhere else, the demands of industry are being more fully met than at any other point.

The opportunities have been seized as they presented themselves; a receptive community has taken full advantage of those new ideas which are daily adding to the sum of the country's achievements, and New Martinsville owes as much to its progressiveness as to its natural advantages. The new forces and resources, natural gas and modern inventions, have been turned to a large degree of usefulness, to add to the welfare of the town, the comfort of its citizens and the promotion of its commercial and industrial progress.

New Martinsville is in the push and is bound to get to the front.

SISTERSVILLE STREETS.

A Town of Well Paved and Neatly Kept Thoroughfares.

Sistersville, with her wide and well paved streets, justly has the reputation of being a well laid out and well kept town. The improvements made during the past eight years are of so great importance as to be worthy of more than passing mention, and the judgment and care exercised by the authorities in attaining the present condition of affairs is commendable. From being a town with streets deep in mud in winter and dust in summer, for no drainage for the surface water and absolutely no sanitary sewerage and with no sidewalks other than a few boardwalks in the principal part of the town, we now have well paved streets with ample arrangements to carry off the storm water. In all alleys in the principal parts of the city, there are sewers for sanitary purposes, and there are miles of sidewalks of more than ample width. Thus have the conditions been improved until Sistersville has taken her proper place among the cities of the state, not only in point of population, but also in the advancement made along all the lines which go to characterize the modern city.

To those who have seen the streets of this city a few years ago, axle deep in mire at the wet seasons of the year, it is a matter of congratulation to look upon her well paved streets of the present time. The streets are so wide that this has been a matter of large expense, but feel amply repaid by the improvement that has been brought about and by increased valuation of property. The first street paving was done in the spring of 1895, and has been continuously prosecuted ever since until now we have about 20 squares of street paving, Wells street fully paved from Charles to Hill; Main street, from Catherine to Hill; Charles, from Brown Betty to Water; Diamond, from Brown Betty to Water, and Elizabeth from Water to Railroad alley, besides work done during the past two years, which includes improvement along the railroad and in some of the other leading thoroughfares.

When street paving was first talked of, a committee of council made a careful investigation of the paving of other cities, and the specifications adopted provided for a foundation of eight inches of gravel upon which was placed two inches of sand as a cushion on which to lay the brick. This has proven very satisfactory, and is the foundation used under all the paving.

The brick used were those manufactured by the McMahon-Porter Company, of New Cumberland, W. Va. Great credit is due councils for the efficient manner in which they have attended to this work.

Buy this edition and send it to your friends. They will be glad to learn something about New Martinsville.

Speech of Oliver Gallahue of Wetzel County at the Opera House, Fairmont, in 1897

"Ladies and gentlemen, fellow citizens and fools, I thank you for your very vociferous applause and for your most cordial reception, which, to me, is as unsuspecting as it is flattering.

"If asked where I hail from, my sole reply shall be, I hail not from Appomattox and its famous apply tree where the conquering hero wrestled the sword of victory from the vanquished foe. Nor did I with the embattled farmers stand and fire the shot heard round the world; nor with Napoleon, cross the bridge at Lodi and mingle the Eagles of France with the Eagles of the crags, whilst forty centuries were looking down upon us. I hail not from the storied lands across the seas haloed by painter's brush and poet's song and moving tales of daring to do when gallant knights rode forth with waving plume and flashing crest to fight for ladies fair, or with lance in rest entered the lists to pluck the bubble of reputation from the cannon's mouth. I hail not from lands of palm and southern pine where close by the cottage door the sweet magnolia blooms, while through the dusky wildwood there throbs the mockbird's song, where the balmy jasmine-scented zephyrs gently waft across the perfumed fields, and wake to ecstasy the living lyre.

"Nor yet from the bleak New England shores, where the breaking waves dashed high on a stern and rock-bound coast, while the stern-faced fathers anchored safe the immortal bark, smoothed off the face of Plymouth Rock, and carved the Ten Commandments upon that everlasting cornerstone of the eternal tower of Liberty which lifts its shining turrets to the star spangled azure dome of the blue imperial heavens.

"Not from the vine-clad hills of La Belle France, nor storied castles on the Rhine, nor down among the English lanes where shepherds watch their flocks by night, nor from heather clad hills of the Land o' Cakes, where Scottish chiefs, with claymore in one hand and pibroch in the other, charged down across the Culloden Moor and scoured these English hence across the Banks and Braes o' Bonny Doon.

"Nor did I spring like Phoenix from the ashes, or Minerva from the head of Jove, or Aphrodite from the ocean's wave — from dream of mystic poet, or vision of philosophic seer.

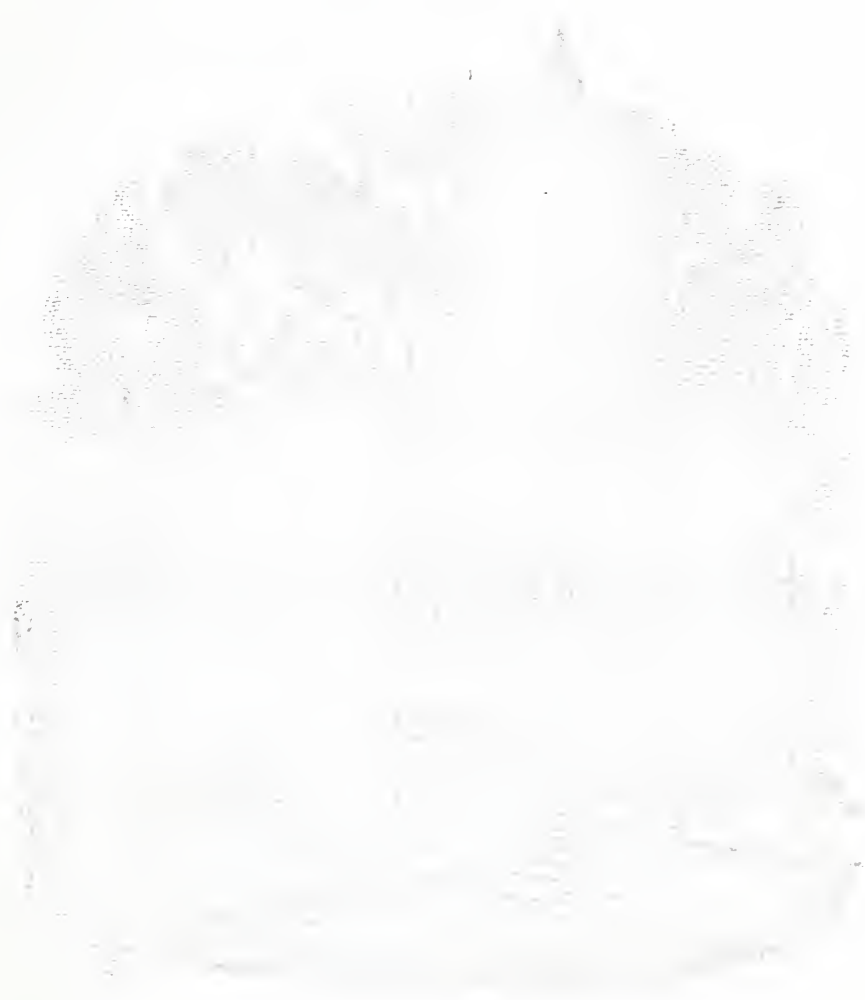
"But — I do spring from the grand old county of Wetzel, where the soil is so fertile and so salubrious the climate, that her teeming harvests leave no space for the upspringing of that noxious weed, Ignorance (which, I perceive, flourishes hereabouts in great luxuriance).

"I hail from the cloud-kissed hills of Wetzel, whose snowcapped peaks lift up their shining fronts to greet the god of day whilst yet ye sluggards of the low land sleep, reclined on couches of inglorious ease.

"I hail from Wetzel, beneath whose towering hills and babbling brooks and bosky dells there lies a mineral and an oleaginous wealth that puts to shame the mines of Ophir or the Isles of Ind.

"Wetzel, from whose rugged slopes her sturdy sons fared forth at duty's call to imbrue their arms in internecine and fraternal strife what time the dogs of war were loosed, and then fared back again to reassume the arts of peace and make of this the king-pin county of the war-born State.

"Glorious old Wetzel! whose sons are brave and daughters fair, and which today produces gas enough to light the world, oil enough to lubricate it and brains enough to rule it."



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